# Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE. MECHANIC ARTS. LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

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The Maine Farmer.

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Our Home, Our Country, and our Brother Man.


### *Scarcity of Birds in Maine.*

It is obvious to one who has lived many years in Maine, and watched the habits of birds, that many species have become very scarce. The clearing away of the forests has introduced some kinds, while others have almost disappeared. The insatiate desire on the part of some to shoot everything in the shape of a bird has caused some of the most valuable birds to be greatly diminished.

The partridge, or ruffed grouse is far less numerous than it was thirty-five or forty years ago. At that time they abounded in every ravine and rocky woods. Now it is hard to find one in the settled portions of the State for a sick friend. We remember in our boyhood the readiness with which whole flocks might be scared up in the woods. The same remarks apply to the prairie hen, once so abundant in the Middle States. The Virginia partridge, commonly though improperly called the quail, was once very abundant in the southern portion of the State. We believe they are very rare at present.

The wild pigeon was once a most noted bird in Maine. During the early history of the State, they frequently bred in large numbers. A pigeon roost was found in 1792 in Bethel, one mile east of the village, where they bred in countless numbers, and furnished an abundance of food to the settlers for a time. Wherever there was a wheat or rye field in Maine in 1820, there might be seen a large flock of pigeons. Now it is rare to see a flock of half a dozen. A wholesale destruction was practiced, and the habit of shooting them rendered them still more timid and shy of man.

Of the different varieties of the hawk family, we are inclined to the belief that they are not so numerous as formerly. The same may be true of the eagles and owls. We rarely see one at the present day. The woodpecker family is more commonly represented than formerly in the sap sucker, or downy woodpecker. This smallest of the family is quite common in orchards. The red-headed woodpecker was formerly quite abundant in Maine. It was common to see them busy at work excavating a hole in an old tree and preparing a nest, during the latter part of May. They are a handsome bird, and universally attracted attention even when abundant, and would add greatly to the appearance of the feathered tribe if they could be induced to remain on the farms in this State.

The robin, we believe, is more abundant now than formerly. They are fond of the haunts of men. They like the cherries and the strawberries from the garden, and love to build their nests in a tree close to the house or in an open shed. They make cheerful company, and in spite of their thievish propensities, we prefer not to disturb them. The bluebird, we think is not so common as formerly. At any rate, we have not seen it so frequently as in our boyhood.

The cliff and eave swallow has certainly diminished greatly in numbers. We rarely see the eaves of barns covered with them, as formerly. The house wren was once very common. This little fellow formerly had the reputation of being quarrelsome by driving the martin and bluebird from their homes, and taking possession of the nest for its own use. The sparrows are still abundant. The scarcity of the birds of prey have given them no doubt a better chance than formerly. The warblers, we suppose, have not materially changed, as they are not generally affected by man, like those which visit the garden and orchard, and open fields.

The bob-o-link was once much more abundant in Maine than now, or else it is more common on the sea coast than in the interior. He was the sauciest among birds, and was sure to have a stone hurled towards him by every boy within reach of him. The golden robin is comparatively rare. We are inclined to think it has gradually worked its way into Maine from the South since its settlement. Its pendulous nest is a great curiosity. The common crow does not appear in such large flocks so frequently as formerly, and we think are not so abundant. The wild ducks have diminished very much since the settlement of the country. All our principal rivers and lakes abounded in immense numbers of these birds. The rapacious hunter has thinned them out, and it is only occasionally that a good shot may be had at a flock. Whether the marine birds on our coast have materially changed in regard to numbers we are not aware.

Protection should be given to the birds. They adorn our garden, field and orchard. Nothing is more enchanting than to hear a thousand voices on a still morning in June. A silent forest in summer would be oppressive. Filled with the songs of birds we may never feel alone. They kill millions of insects, and seldom do harm to man without compensation in some way or other.

### *The Farmer's Library.*

What a precious thing is a little library of books in the farmer's book case! It does not take a great many books to make a great library. The shelves of many a man may groan with books, and yet they may be nearly all useless trash to him. We have sometimes looked over a large bookstore and not found a single book that we wanted. A single book adapted to our wants is a great library of itself for the time being.

The books now accessible to the farmer are full, not only of practical farming, but of writings of the most scientific character. A dozen books of the right character on agricultural subjects will meet the demands of nearly every farmer in the State.

Our State Reports are an ornament to any man's library. They embody the opinions of the best minds in the State. They constitute the historical progress of agriculture in Maine from its infancy, when a book on agriculture was hardly known, to the present time when the science of the world is rendered tributary to the wants of the farmer. The Patent Office Reports are filled with essays and chapters and reports from different portions of the country valuable as books of reference and study. Every subject belonging to the farmer's wants is supplied with a book. The swine book, the herd book, the poultry book, the manure and many other books are at hand to meet his wants.

With the price of one cow a man can buy all the books of any value to him in the agriculture of the present day, and we have thought that many a farmer would be much better off, if he would sell one cow and devote the proceeds towards forming a farmer's library. He would derive more happiness and more profit in the long run from his books than from his cow. A man cannot afford to be very fogyish in farming at the present day. Hence every good farmer has his agricultural newspaper, he keeps posted up in the market reports, and watches with eager interest the opinions and mode of operation of his brother farmers. If there is a new machine for facilitating his farming operations he is anxious to know what it is.

A man's pleasure and happiness should not consist in the number of his flocks and herds, or the extent of his farm. These should only be the *means* toward a higher object, the elevation of himself and family in all that is noble and useful and good. This he will accomplish by the intelligent application of his labor. Intelligent farmers of to-day are not obliged to work more than two-thirds as many hours in a day to accomplish as much as farmers did forty years ago. They have as a class, learned to think, and thought always alleviates bodily labor.

The farmer who has cultivated a habit of reading is not likely to be carried away by novel things of no value. In other words he is not so easily humbugged. We would then encourage the habit among farmers of collecting a little library of books as among the most valuable acquisitions on their farms.

### *The Department of Agriculture.*

It is worthy of mention perhaps, that the Monthly Report of the U. S. Department of Agriculture for January—which however did not reach us until March—contains not a single word from the new commissioner, or one line to indicate his future plans and the operations of his Department. If he intends to continue the publication of this bulletin, for the purpose of communicating with the farmers of our country, we should naturally look to it for an expression of his opinions and purposes in assuming control of the Department; and in none with more expectation of finding it than the first one issued after his assignment to the position. But we presume silence is better than the shocking blunders and laughable assertions of his predecessor, so perhaps we are to be the gainers after all.

But we find in the Transactions of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society for 1867, just published, a document purporting to be a circular letter from Mr. Capron—a copy of which has never found its way to our office, however—which gives some idea of his designs in attempting to make the department answer the object of its establishment. This is to be done by encouraging the co-operation of State Agricultural Societies and State Boards of Agriculture, as well as county and town associations, with the Department, for the accomplishment of the following purposes: the testing of new seedling fruits; the study of diseases of fruit trees by sending accurate accounts of their history, progress and effects, to the Department; correspondence relative to insect depredations, with samples of the insects for identification, description and experiment; the collection of agricultural statistics, and the returns of the condition of crops during the growing season.

If these could be carried out, we presume the Department would be productive of vastly more good than it has been heretofore, but our own belief is that in order to have it successfully accomplished, it would be necessary to have paid reporters or correspondents in every section of the country, from which such returns were desired. The reports of the Department and such worthless seeds as have generally been sent out, are small compensation for the labor required, and will command nothing but the most ordinary ability, when that of a higher order is certainly necessary. And to our thinking, one-half of the twenty-five thousand dollars appropriated for the distribution of seeds from the Department, could be much better spent, and productive of more satisfactory results, if judiciously expended in paying a reasonable sum for a dozen good, reliable correspondents or reporters in each State, to gather and forward to the Department just such information as that indicated in the letter of Mr. Capron. Until this is done we fear the objects will not be attained, as from our own experience in similar matters upon a much smaller scale, voluntary labor of the kind indicated is entirely unreliable and often of little value.

We have so often alluded to the management of the affairs of the Department that we feel almost ashamed to say more, but the absence of any indication of his plans in his Monthly Report, and the publication of Mr. Capron's letter in another place, induced us to throw out, in no spirit of fault-finding, the above remarks. We certainly hope all his plans will be accomplished, and shall be ever ready to assist whenever requested to do so.

### *Oats.*

Among the most valuable cereals cultivated in this country is that of oats. As an article of food for live stock it has long stood in high repute, while in some countries it has an important value as an article of food.

The native country of the oat is not certainly known, nor does it appear to have been cultivated to a great extent till within a few hundred years. It was introduced into this country by the earliest settlers, and has been prominent among the products of the farm in the northern States, though rarely in sufficient quantity for exportation. The amount raised in 1863 was estimated at one hundred and sixty millions of bushels.

The oat is usually regarded as an exhausting crop, though it does not demand so high a state of cultivation as wheat. Good crops are often produced on old pasture lands, with but a small amount of manure, where wheat would entirely fail. We are inclined to the opinion that it is not so exhaustive as is generally supposed, and believe that if a crop of wheat was taken from land in the usual condition of the soil, for oats that we should complain the next year of the exhaustive character of the wheat. Land in a suitable condition for the best crop of wheat would be completely lodged down with oats. We believe that among our cereals for the last few years, oats have been the most valuable crop. It is a good crop to sow on the sod to prepare the land for the hoed crops. They will grow on clay loams where wheat will not ordinarily succeed, and the straw may be turned to better account than that of any other grain, especially in times when hay is scarce. It is sometimes the case that a large crop of fodder may be obtained of excellent value when cut early, and when they are inclined to lodge badly, they will frequently be of greater value as fodder than if allowed to ripen.

But it is as an article of food that we wish here especially to speak. While in some countries it forms a most nutritious article of food, it has hardly found a place on the tables of Americans. From the time of the Romans it has been confessedly regarded as one of the most nutritious articles of food, and has for ages been prescribed in the sick room. The sturdy Scotchman loves his oatmeal, and shows his large and vigorous frame. Its nitrogenous properties render it excellent for strengthening the nerve force. If we compare its nutritious qualities with those of other cereals, we shall be surprised to see how well it stands among them. It does not contain so much water in its composition as wheat, while its flesh-forming materials are greater. Its heat and fat forming principles are almost as great as those of wheat. Its qualities as an article of diet are much better than barley. When oatmeal is cooked, it swells to a large bulk. Half a pint of oatmeal will make a large bulk of pudding. It is easily digested, and when meat is not abundant, is an excellent substitute. A barrel of oatmeal will go a great way in a family. We believe that if once introduced into all our families, but few after a fair trial would be willing to do without it.

There were raised in this State in 1860, nearly three million bushels of oats. If a portion of them could have been converted into food for man, it might have diminished to a certain extent the great drain upon us for flour from the West. We are not aware what experiments have been made in this State in hulling the oat for purposes of food. It would be well if experiments could be instituted, and facts ascertained as definitely as possible with reference to their comparative value as food.

### *How to make Compost.*

"If you know anything," said one of our worthy subscribers to us not long since, in a blunt, honest way, as is his wont, "tell us how to make compost—just how much muck, how much lime, how much ashes, and other *stuff*, to have it *just right*." We promised him we would do so, and here attempt to redeem that promise.

It must be remembered, however, that muck, which forms the main bulk of nearly all compost heaps, varies in acidity and in the amount of vegetable matter it contains. Now as the object of the lime or ashes is to induce fermentation, it is plain to see that the amount to be incorporated with the muck will of course vary with the character of the same. This matter can only be determined by the farmer, after repeated trials. A cord of muck contains about one hundred and three bushels. Now divide this into eight lots. Place about twelve and a half bushels in a level, compact form, upon which distribute evenly three pecks of unleached ashes. Upon this put another layer of muck, then the same quantity of ashes. Keep on in this way until the muck and five bushels of unleached ashes are used up, which will be sufficient for one cord. This is a simple, good method of making compost, and one that has been perfectly satisfactory in our own practice.

In order however, to give our subscriber the benefit of the information of others, we copy the following from the February number of Dr. Nichols' "Journal of Chemistry"—a useful little work, which devotes considerable space to chemistry as applied to agriculture:

"We often have sent to us for examination, manure recipes; and our views are solicited as regards their value. We are pleased to lend all the aid we can to the soil cultivator, and therefore take special pains to answer these inquiries and all others connected with agricultural matters. The following comes to us from Richmond, Va., and is called Dr. Valentine's recipe for making artificial guano:

'No. 1, dry peat, twenty bushels; No. 2, wood ashes, three bushels; No. 3, fine bone dust, three bushels; No. 4, calcined plaster, three bushels; No. 5, nitrate of soda, forty pounds; No. 6, sal. ammoniac, twenty-two pounds; No. 7, carb. ammonia, eleven pounds; No. 8, sulph. soda, twenty pounds; No. 9, magnesia, ten pounds; No. 20, common salt, ten pounds.

In preparing the above, mix Nos. 1, 2, 3, together; mix 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, in four or five pails of water, or enough to dissolve the ingredients. When dissolved, add the liquid to the mixture (1, 2, 3), and mix as in making mortar. When thoroughly mixed, add No. 4 (the calcined plaster), which will absorb the liquid, and bring the whole to a dry state. Mix under cover, in a dry place; pack so as to exclude air; observe the proportions in making small or large quantities. The above receipt will make one ton, which will manure seven and a half acres of land.'

This is a very good general formula, and embraces in fair proportions nearly all the ingredients of plant food. We should prefer to substitute nitrate of potassa for soda, and also to increase the bone-dust to four or five bushels. This should not be spread over *seven and a half acres* of land. We think very well of the combination, and have no doubt, if used upon our ordinary northern soils, upon one or two acres, it would render highly remunerative returns. The cost of the ingredients, excluding the peat, will be, at present market prices, about twenty dollars the ton.

We present another recipe, which is stated to have been 'patented' by some one in Western Massachusetts last August. A farmer might as well patent his jackknife, or the contents of his pig-pen, as to patent a compound like this: Pond or meadow muck, fifteen hundred pounds; sulphuric acid, twenty pounds; potash, fifty pounds; salt, eighty pounds; nitrate of soda, one hundred pounds; lime, one hundred and fifty pounds; phosphate of lime (bone-dust, we suppose), one hundred pounds.

We are not informed by what manipulation this is fitted for the soil. These are all good materials; and the formula in some respects resembles one we have experimented with for some years. We have realized most excellent results from a compost essentially of this nature; but, for general employment, we should rather prefer the Virginia combination. That is easily prepared, and embraces the magnesian element so important in the cereal grains."

### *Notes from Our Copy Drawer.*

Coal Tar for Shingles. A subscriber in New Sharon writes: "Not long since I noticed a communication in the Farmer, recommending coal tar to preserve shingles on roofs of buildings. I wish to inquire through your columns, whether the tar should be applied as the shingles are laid, so as to have it under each course, or if it will do as well to put the tar on after the shingles are laid." We have been unable to turn to the number containing the article to which our correspondent alludes, and will thank the party who communicated the same to respond to the above inquiry.

Breeding. (Subscriber). There is no rule by which the sex of offspring in animals can be regulated or foreknown. Goodale's "Principles of Breeding," $1 50, is the best general treatise on the principles of the subject, although most works on farm stock devote some space to the matter. The best farmer's book is McClure's "Diseases in the American Stable, Field and Farm Yard," an 8 vo. of 414 pages, with an exhaustive index, price $2.50. Every farmer ought to have it for consultation. Address Dr. R. McClure, 807 Filbert St., Philadelphia, Penn.

Kennebec Union Agricultural Society. At the annual meeting of the Kennebec Union Agricultural and Horticultural Society, held in Gardiner, March 7th, the following officers were elected: President, W. H. Merrill, Esq., West Gardiner; Vice Presidents, N. Foster, Gardiner, Benjamin Berry, Litchfield, A. D. Knight, Hallowell; Secretary, S. Smiley, Gardiner; Treasurer and Collector, Cyrus Libby, Gardiner.

Improved Delano Rake. (J. S. Palmer, Montville, and others.) For the Improved Delano Horse Rake with Woodman's patent, address Mr. Howard Pettingil, Augusta.

Good Calf. A cow belonging to Mr. O. Colcord, of Farmingdale, recently dropped a calf which weighed when twenty-four hours old, one hundred and ten lbs.

### *Early Grafting.*

We are inclined to the opinion that early grafting of all kinds of trees is the best. We know this to be true with cherry and plum trees. Many persons find a difficulty in grafting cherry and plum trees. Now it is the easiest thing in the world if they be grafted as soon as they can be reached in the spring. Just as soon as the snow is off the ground, take a warm day and graft them, and we will warrant them to live.

A different impression has prevailed with reference to apple trees, but we are inclined to the opinion that the same rule holds good with reference to the apple tree, as with plum and cherry trees. We grafted a young orchard last year in March, on the snow banks, and we never had better success. We have repeatedly done so, and have never failed. The only requisite is a warm day sufficient for the wax to stick to the wood.

Another erroneous impression is quite prevalent—that it is better to cut the scions beforehand for grafting. This is no doubt true for late grafting, but for early setting, we prefer to graft as soon as possible after they are cut.

If any of our orchardists have any such work to do, they can attend to it any warm day from now till May, only taking care not to do it when the bark is cold or wet.

### *A Column for Bee Keepers.*

A Bee Department. Some of our corresdondents have expressed a wish that we should inaugurate a Bee-Keepers' Department in the Maine Farmer. The advantages of such a department of the paper they claim to be, they would know more readily where to find articles relating to the business, and it would be a more direct means of increasing an interest among bee-keepers. We are aware the keeping of bees is beginning to assume more importance among the farmers and gardeners of our State, than formerly, and that they naturally look to our journal for the reception and dissemination of information upon the subject; and while we are willing to give reasonable space in our paper to the matter, and to aid its advancement so far as consistent, we deem it somewhat out of place to set apart a *special department* for the purpose. To our mind it would be unjust to those interested in the keeping of poultry, sheep, to the fruit grower and the gardener—either of which interest is of as much importance as bee-keeping. Again the form of our paper (folio) is not adapted to its being chopped up into distinct departments with separate division headlines. We hope therefore to satisfy all our readers by neglecting no one of the many branches of rural economy, but giving to each in turn a due amount of room, upon all of which topics we earnestly invite the experiences and opinions of our readers.

Interesting Queries. *Messrs. Editors:*—In H. A. King's "Bee-Keeper's Text Book," p. 14, is the following passage: "Eggs are sometimes laid by the young queen before her impregnation, but they invariably produce drones."

Again, p. 17, "Workers are undeveloped females, incapable of fertilization by the drone, yet occasionally in queenless colonies, one will be found laying eggs, which, being unfertilized, never produce workers but drones only." I have bought the book, also the right to use his movable comb hive, and some of my neighbors noticing the above passages, make sport of them, saying it is all a humbug. I should be pleased to have some one enlighten us on this subject through the columns of the Farmer. H. J. W.

*Orland, March 9th*, 1868.

Note. If your neighbors were a little better informed in regard to the wonderful characteristics and instincts of the honey-bee, they would not make sport of such assertions, and if they know so little they should certainly be very careful of the statements they make. We will quote some brief passages from authors acknowledged as authority in confirmation of the above:

1. Langstroth, in his "Hive and Honey Bee," p. 36, says: "The workers are proved by dissection to be females, which under ordinary circumstances are barren. Occasionally, some of them appear to be sufficiently developed to be capable of laying eggs; but these eggs, like those of queens whose impregnation has been retarded, always produce drones! Dzierzon asserts that all impregnated eggs produce females, either workers or queens; and all unimpregnated ones males or drones." We have not room at present to give a synopsis of the ingenious theories and speculations as to the cause of this, given in Mr. Langstroth's book, but refer the reader to the work itself. Quinby in his "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping Explained," says, p. 37: "Queens with faulty wings, or otherwise unable to fly out to meet the drones, or such as are raised late in the season, when no drones exist, are certain to prove drone layers—every egg they deposit whether in worker or drone cells, produces a drone."

2. Rev. J. G. Wood, an English apiarian of note in his little manual on "Bees," says: "The most curious circumstance about the worker bees is that they are all undeveloped females, and can, when in their larva state be metamorphosed into queens, now and then a worker bee becomes partly fertile; but it never lays any but drone eggs." Quinby says: "Workers are all females with undeveloped organs of generation, yet they possess enough of the maternal instinct to make them good nurses for the brood of the real mother." Langstroth says: "Workers are all females whose ovaries are too imperfectly developed to admit of their laying eggs. Riem, a German apiarian, first discovered that workers sometimes lay eggs."—Eds.

Bee Keepers' Exhibition. Stephen Richardson of Belgrade, a well informed apiarian, whose articles have frequently appeared in our columns, writes as follows in regard to the proposed exhibition of bee-keepers. Let us hear from others upon the subject:

"I notice a proposition is on foot for an exhibition at some central point, in June next, at which bee-keepers may present their favorite modes of operation in the matter of bee culture. The subject is what I approve of, but the time I would suggest, is, in my opinion, objectionable, as June is the time when bees are in their most active process of swarming, and I for one—and perhaps some other bee-keepers may be in the same situation—would like to attend, but on account of having my own bees to superintend I could not leave them in the care of any one else. Consequently I should have to forego the pleasure of participating in what I should deem a great favor, and I would propose that the time named be more appropriate at about the first of August, or from that time to the middle, for by that time the most of the colonies will have sent out their new swarms."

Bee Keepers' Resolutions. At the recent meeting of the Wisconsin Bee Keepers' Association, resolutions were passed to the effect that the moveable frame is indispensable to complete success in bee culture; that some suitable, permanent house, or protection for bees in winter, is more economical than an out-door exposure; that artificial swarming is indispensable to success, and that close proximity of hives is injurious to the bee keeper. A resolve recommending the Italian as superior to the black bee was lost by a tie vote. A meeting of the Association is to be held on the fair grounds during the State Fair next fall.

Bee Stings. Does the sting of a single bee ever produce death,—if so, how? H. J. White.

Note. We are not aware that the sting of a single bee has ever produced death, although upon some persons it produces very painful and even dangerous effects, and while those whose systems are not sensitive to the venom of the sting, are rarely molested by bees, they seem to take a malicious pleasure in stinging those upon whom their poison produces the most virulent effect. Langstroth thinks something in the secretions of such persons may both provoke the attack and render its consequences more severe.—Eds.

Moveable Comb Hives. *Messrs. Editors:*—Will you or some of the numerous readers of the Maine Farmer please inform me through the columns of your paper, if there is any place in Maine where Moveable Comb Bee Hives are kept for sale. I should like to obtain a few hives with directions for use. An answer will oblige A Young Subscriber.

*Bangor, March 1st*, 1868.

Note. We think it would be for the advantage of parties owning the right of moveable comb hives, to make the same known to the readers of the Maine Farmer, through our advertising department.—Eds.

American Bee Journal. We call the attention of our readers interested in bee culture to the advertisement of this, the only paper in America specially devoted to the interest of the bee keeper, which appears in the Farmer of this week. It is deserving the patronage of every intelligent apiarian, whether he keeps few hives or many, and we hope to see its circulation in our State largely increased.

## Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

### *Observations on Cattle.*

THE JERSEY CATTLE AND KENNEBEC AGRICULTURE.

The changes which have taken place in our cattle, in form, size, and general adaptability for usefulness, within the last few score of years are very great. Attendance at our annual recurring fairs puts this in a clear light—whether State, county or town. If any proof was wanting it would be sufficient to pass into those remote parts of New England, where the desire for improvement has been sluggish or where it has lain in a different direction; and observe the neat stock that is there found. It will seem like transporting ourselves to an earlier period of history when the mind had discovered little in agriculture to exercise itself upon, and when the farmer was thought to require a little gumption, but a great deal more brute force. The cattle will be of a type—with small variation—of the original stock imported into the country. In the early period they probably averaged a higher quality than cattle of the same class in Europe, since we cannot suppose that other than good specimens would be chosen for so long and expensive a voyage as importation involved. That they have since improved, would be too much to assume. A notice of their merits, save in exceptional instances, would show few of those excellences that unite in the model animal of to-day. But a higher type of the "native," so called, and one that places her in a more advantageous light will be found in those parts of New England where enterprise and the spirit of improvement have urged the farmer to more thought, and a more rational treatment of cattle. There can be no doubt that these natives, a class of animals that have arisen from ancestrey of most diverse aspect and quality, are capable, without intermixture of foreign blood, of being bred to improvement. It is possible that a careful and experienced breeder, who has an eye for variations and small differences, that few possess, could by judicious selection and sorting out those animals having merits in common, raise up a distinct breed. But the length and tediousness of this process united with the uncertainty of results, and of advantage that would ensue, must forbid any serious and comprehensive move in this direction.

While we allow that the natives are capable of improvement from breeding native to native, we do not believe that any general and material improvement or indeed change in our cattle has resulted from this cause. That in those cases, where this is claimed, even for particular animals, a searching of the pedigree will usually bring us to a recent introduction of new and foreign blood of Durham, of Hereford, or other kinds from which they derive their particular merits. It is not necessary that the sire, grandsire, or more remote ancestor should be pure bred in order to the bringing out of occasional excellences. If he has a fraction of "good blood" he may throw the full weight of this fraction into his progeny. The native cow (so called), if she happens to be distinguished above many others, will usually owe her distinction in good part to that which is not native, to a foreign source, and to call her native is a manifest error. She is a cross with superior stock and if her chief merit comes from the superior blood, it would be as proper to call her thoroughbred. It is then the introduction of new and superior strains of blood that are affecting so great changes in our New England cattle. They are being new built and upon a more perfect model. The native is being absorbed in the thoroughbred, and as this process goes on, our cattle will become more valuable.

In attempting the improvement of stock, the use of the thoroughbred, we believe, is essential to success. But it requires judicious thought, and a careful balancing of what we want, and what we do not want, before one is fit to enter upon a stock raising career. Whether the Durham Short-horn, the Hereford, Ayrshire, Devon, Dutch, or the small Jersey, (or Alderney) shall receive our care, must be determined by the sort of service we desire; whether their return for feed given shall be in the form of labor, of meat, of milk, cream or cheese, or in a general average and combination of these utilities. The animal that is perfect in one service is less perfect for other service. The farmer who usually needs a variety of service, may arrange his wants, and thus upon the whole, find the animal that shall be most profitable to him. It is clear that if he requires large quantities of meat, he will not choose an animal whose chief merit is at the pail, and *vice versa*. In the former case he might choose the Durham Short-horn, in the latter the Ayrshire. If the soil is poor and gives light pasturage, he will certainly find the Short-horn too large an animal to flourish with him; he will deteriorate. The Devon is smaller and may suit his situation better.

Let each breed of cattle be well studied in their characteristics, in general adaptability to various conditions of soil, of climate, of kind of work, etc. Then consider in how far our soil, climate, a work, &c., is adapted to a particular breed; then whether these being fit the one to the other, the circumstance of market is favorable to the purse.

In the light of these remarks, I will offer a few observations upon the changes that are now being wrought upon the cattle of Kennebec county, and some other parts of Maine, by extensive use of a thoroughbred, which, until within a dozen years, was hardly known there. Those who are any way familiar with the cattle interests of this county, will hardly need be told that I refer to the Alderney or Jersey, since a bull of that breed is sure to stamp its foreign aspect upon all its progeny. These afford conspicuous witnesses of the change; I may say revolution in the size, shape, aspect and general utility of the cattle. In some towns and in some neighborhoods, most all the young stock owe their birth to this new blood, and an animal is considered to be valuable according to the amount which it has—a three-fourth blood is more valuable than a quarter blood, and a full blood is judged a prize.

For the last twenty or thirty years a uniform and general opinion has arisen in respect to *how an animal should be built up*. The plates of model animals that have appeared in the agricultural papers and State reports, have contributed to this result. It is universally conceeded that the form of the improved Shorthorn is about perfect, and were all the qualities which render cattle useful united in a high degree with this form, little remains to be desired. But it happens that all the excellences are not to be found in alliance, the perfect milch animal is of a different build and quality from the perfect beef animal; and it must always remain a humiliation to the breeder that he is not likely to have a perfect animal, one that shall be equally good for all services. If useful in all he will be a compromise of all. But our cattle, natives and crosses, have been gradually assuming a uniformity of quality and aspect, and if the result now is far from uniform, no one can deny the progress in this direction. In the midst of this general acquisence of opinion as supposed, as to the needs of the farmer, a new class of animals are introduced and extensively multiplied, at first by a class, other than farmers or cattle raisers. They are flow, however, passing into their hands and occupying "tie ups" where very differently styled animals have lately stood. In order more fully to perceive the contrast, and for the benefit of those who are not yet much acquainted with Jersey stock, I will quote a description of this breed from an English author of acknowledged worth: "The Alderney cattle are angular, awkwardly shaped, of small size, thin necked, small boned, with high shoulders, hollow behind, short in the rump, with pendant bellies and a voracious appetite. The cows yield only a small portion of milk, but it is of extraordinary richness, and on this account they are often kept in the parks and pleasure grounds of the opulent, where we must confess they are both useful and ornamental. Their gentleness, their diminutive size, and even their singular contour, together with the excellence of their milk, render them favorites, when no remunerative return for their keep is expected or desired. * * * In proportion to the quantity of milk, the butter it yields is astonishing: a single cow has been known to give nineteen pounds of butter weekly for several successive weeks. This, of course, is a very rare and remarkable occurrence; the average is from six to eight or nine pounds weekly, during the season, supposing the cow to be first rate of her kind."

I have thought it fair to quote thus fully, since had I stopped at the mere description of form, it might have been taken for a caricature. But any figure of a pure Jersey must show its correctness. The bull or ox is little spoken of in any account of Jersey cattle, since the former is only useful to continue the species, while the ox has no acknowledged worth. All the merit of the breed lies with the cow, and her merit is but one. The praises that are usually bestowed upon various thoroughbreds by their admirers, can here but justly be bestowed upon a single quality, and that is the surpassing richness of the milk. So that this one trait, as the sole valuable one, must atone for all deficiencies in other points. That gentleness of disposition, that mixture of color, that general delicacy of form and aspect, claimed for them, goes but a little way with the practical farmer. This is desirable enough, but it is desirable to another sort of person.

In estimating the legitimate value of Jersey stock to the Kennebec farmer it will be well to throw out of the account all value that arises from fashion or from gentlemens, and village purposes—since this is fleeting in character. But if the rearing of Jersey stock is profitable on this account, the farmers may well take advantage of it. But he should not allow his judgment to be warped from a just estimate of their merits or of the place they are fitted to occupy, and influence others to breed for home supply and home use, if for this purpose the Jersey appears to his mind entirely unsuited. If one breeds to supply a market abroad with either pure or three quarters or seven eighths Jersey stock, he has only to bear in mind the style of animal this market demands.

In this article it has been the intention to test, or at least introduce some inquiries in respect to the fitness of the Jersey to displace the present stock and afford the farmer all he may reasonably expect, circumstanced as he is, from any breed of cattle. The present average quality of cattle now found in Kennebec county, and more particularly those that approach to being thorough-bred have many characteristics that have recommended them to popular favor. The soil yield is such as to afford them fair pasturage and winter food. The cattle best suited to the Blue Grass region of Kentucky might not approach perfection here, but the class now here thrives well. They bear well the climate, and for work they are becoming better every year, and even now surpass the cattle of many older States. For the dairy, while not the best, and decidedly inferior to the best, the average taken through the whole State would perhaps be high—while for beef as shown by Brighton reports and from estimate of those who attend the county shows, they stand well.

The present needs of the county, viewed in the light of the present system of agriculture, appears to be divided into three divisions—the dairy, labor and meat. The Jersey we will assume is an excellent butter cow. Wherever she goes better butter, and commonly more butter is made than before, provided she is rightly kept. But for labor and for meat the Jersey is so far inferior to most other stock as always to elicit observation. How she will compare as regards hardiness of constitution and capacity to thrive upon ordinary foods, has not yet been shown to the satisfaction of all, though most believe she is an animal that suffers from cold and exposure to our varying climate. Any reflection upon the climate of her native isle must render the opposite conclusion entirely impossible. The condition of her life there as an equal in the family, occupying with them a part of the kitchen—gives her the best of attention and the best of food. A native of the isle of Jersey once told me that at home the Jersey cows are "up to their eyes in clover" when in milk. It is very likely that the cosset treatment this stock receives, accounts for the superior quality of her milk. What kind of treatment can the farmer of Kennebec afford? How much petting will her excellence in milk pay for? For labor the Jersey cow must atone in cream. For meat the cow is small, badly put together, has a voracious appetite and it is not proven that she fattens well, though it is so claimed by some. Of the three great qualities that the farmers of Kennebec county have judged themselves to require, the Jersey cow possesses but one in any high degree, while in the other she is inferior to the native, cross or other stock. This quality happens to be one for which Kennebec cares the least. The making of meat is her chief aim, and is that to which all the conditions thus seem to point. If she is mistaken in her needs, and she is to become a great dairying district, the writer believes, other breeds will outrival and displace the Jersey, for though none can equal her in quality of milk, several would supply the butter at less cost, for several would be well adapted to the soil and climate of the district.

It is probable, however, that her system of agriculture will concinue for some time as it is—of a mixed sort, and that she will continue to appreciate the animal that shall give abundant milk, make abundant beef, and fine, handsome oxen. In those parts where the butter is held highest less account will be made of milk, though this must ever be a valuable quality in any breed. We believe this enthusiasm for the Jersey will decline when larger experience with them shall fully demonstrate their unfitness for the farmer, but it will not be before a large infusion of the new blood is diffused in some parts of the county, and it shall reappear after some years in the ox, reducing its size, its hardiness, displaying those irregularities which it is the object of all breeders to diminish. The present centers of the Jerseys in the county must have other and new animals in a few years in order to have as fine, as useful animals as are found elsewhere where the Jersey is unknown. Zelco.

For the Maine Farmer

### *My Orchard---and its Enemies.*

Messrs. Editors:—I have a small orchard, Baldwins and Greenings, from a New York Nursery, set in 1856 on a piece of bramble and pitch pine land, which had been cleared, and planted with potatoes a couple of years. The soil is very coarse, some of it seeming little better than would result from crushing the adjoining gneiss ledges. The trees were carefully set, and have been dressed with chips and soil on which the house slops, ashes and offal were thrown, and each spring well mulched with litter from the horse or calves stalls. On the north and west the trees are closely bordered by pine woods, and they have made a fine growth, and I have lost but five, all apparently from *sun stroke*.

Each year, *save one*, about the last of June, I have had them washed with domestic soft soap and water, and *kerosene* oil, in about the proportion of a gallon of soap, two of water and a half pint of kerosene, well rubbed on with a brush, and I have failed to discover any ill effects from the treatment. Four years ago it was neglected, and the borers got into several of the trees very badly before they were detected. There had been none before, and they have not troubled me since. I think they do not relish the mixture. Those trees, however, which were the most injured have been the most prolific bearers, so that I have been well nigh persuaded to act the part of borer on some of those unharmed by them.

But the partridges are the most intolerable *borers* I have to deal with. Situated as the trees are, close to the woods, these, which the laws of Maine denominate "useful birds," come in flocks to the orchard. Two years ago many of the trees were so closely budded by them that they only leaved very sparsely late in the season, nearly all the fruit buds being taken. The present winter they have been equally troublesome, many of the trees are stripped and spoiled for the coming season. A double-barrelled gun has been found the most effectual remedy, and has reduced the flock very much. But the first of March is at hand, and then the law says I must leave them till July, to raise a few broods, to spoil my trees another year—all apparently that some Jackanapes, who draws a few whiffs of tobacco smoke through a clay pipe, in a lawyer's office, may have it to *boast* of, that he has shot a partridge—a *boast* which will cost more for outfits, horse hire, and wear and tear, to say nothing of time, for each partridge shot, than any honest farmer in Maine can get for a dozen turkeys.

But perhaps some of your readers, who had a voice in making the laws, will be at hand with a better remedy than Dupont and double B.

Yours truly, P.

*Woolwich.*

For the Maine Farmer.

### *Agricultural Items.*

Now is the time for farmers *one and all* to cast about for their spring seed wheat, and have it ready for the first crop for the warm upland as soon as it can be plowed. "Any time" is too late. Soak the seed in four pails of water to ½ peck salt for 10 or 12 hours. Rake it in wood ashes or lime, and sow while damp. With these alkalies, you will, by sowing very *early*, escape the treacherous midge and contaminating rust.

Doct. Jas. R. Nichols, of Haverhill, Mass., sowed 2 bushels spring wheat on one acre and harvested 31 bushels. He applied 500 lbs. bone dust and harrowed in with his grain. He was offered $4 per bushel for it on the ground, but declined to part with it, and is now daily enjoying it as a family luxury. Every farmer in Maine can do as well by taking his warm acre, and fertilize highly from his pig pen and barn yard. One acre this spring and one acre next fall, will *tell* in the old family meal chest.

Have an eye to your cornfields this year. Do not cultivate four acres to get 80 to 100 bushels. Put all the manure on to one acre, and get the same product you get from four acres and save a *vast amount of labor*. Spread and plow in your manure. Green manure in the hill heats, and makes the corn yellow and backward and it does not begin to grow till its roots get away from the manure hill. Evaporation brings up the gases when the manure is spread and the roots are running, seeking and getting nourishment in every direction. The same principle applies in planting a tree. To dig a hole and dump it full of manure, does little or nothing for its far-stretching roots. Half hilling and hilling corn is all wrong. It suffers more in drought, and many roots are cut off in hilling up. It stands up no better in high winds, the roots holding it the same as a tree is supported. The cultivator can do nearly all the work in keeping the weeds down and much labor is saved in hoeing by its use. No attention is given to shaping hills in the West and none should be made in the East. Many think corn won't grow unless the hill is high as the knees—the notion is absurd as it is antiquated. Henry Poor.

*Brooklyn, L. I., March* 10.

## Maine Board of Agriculture.

### *Increasing the Fertility of our Farms.*

BY PETER W. AYER OF FREEDOM.

"How shall we increase the fertility of our farms?"

I do not attempt an elaborate argument on this most important subject, but shall offer some practical suggestions, hoping thereby to provoke profitable discussion.

In the first place we plow too much; thereby compelling us to spread our manure so thin that we can scarce see it, or its effect on the crops. The average of our farmers, judging from careful conversation with many of them, cultivate in hoed crops and grain about one-fourth of their fields, and by the same means of information,

# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.


**The Maine Farmer.**

**Augusta, Saturday, March 21, 1868.**

**TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.**

**$2.00 in advance, or $2.50 if not paid within three months of the date of Subscription.**

☞ *These terms will be rigidly adhered to in all cases.* ☜

All payments made by subscribers to the Farmer will be credited in accordance with our new mailing method. The printed date upon the paper, in connection with the subscriber's name, will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for moneys remitted by him.

☞ A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us *the name of the office to which it has previously been sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request.


**COLLECTORS' NOTICE.**

Mr. V. Darling will call upon subscribers in Hancock County during the month of January.

Mr. S. N. Taber is now engaged in canvassing the County of Kennebec.

### *Coins.*

Few persons have any idea of the vast number and variety of coins, both ancient and modern, that are now in existence. The history of coins dates back several thousand years. We were greatly pleased and surprised at finding so large a collection of different coins as we recently saw in the private collection of Hon. V. D. Parris, of Paris. His collection numbers about two thousand specimens, many of which he has arranged in a way peculiarly his own, but convenient for reference and tasteful in design.

In his collection may be seen specimens from Egypt more than three thousand years old, rusty coins from the catacombs of that country. There are ancient Grecian coins, among which is one of Alexander the Great, convex on one side and concave on the other. On one side is a figure of the man himself, on the other, the wonderful lighthouse built by him in the harbor of Alexandria, in Egypt. This coin is of silver, and must be more than twenty-one hundred years old. Here, too, are old Carthaginian coins, very rare. Then there is a large number of ancient Roman coins, some of which are well preserved. Among them is an ancient Arabic coin, found at Bethlehem, where our Savior was born. A most interesting series of coins was the Roman farthing, known as the widow's mite. They are of copper, about the size of a gold half-dollar. Then there was a Mahommedan coin, with characters that have been out of use more than eight hundred years.

Coming down to our own country, we found the Pine Tree shilling, date 1652, which was in good preservation. Here is a collection of all the copper coins struck by our government since 1793, except that of 1799, which is wanting to make it complete. The first gold coin in the United States was issued in 1795. The first silver coin was issued in 1794; the first dime in 1796. Three different dies of cents were issued the first year. The first was called the Link Cent, from a chain encircling its surface on one side, each link of which represented a State. The next had a laurel wreath substituted for the links; and thirdly, the Liberty cap hung on a pole, resting on a person's shoulders—a very expressive, though not a very graceful looking coin. This form was struck off for two or three years, after which the fillet was employed. Not only United States coins are represented here, but those of the several States. Vermont struck off its copper cents as early as 1786. Connecticut had at least seven different dies. A complete collection of American copper and silver coins is a rare sight, especially in a private collection.

Besides American coins, there were those from every civilized nation on the globe, and some that are very rare and valuable. He also had a large display of medals. One could but laugh, as he saw arranged in order the curious medals struck in Jackson's time. His firmness, his history in part, is given in a few words by his enemies, on these medals.

The collection of coins has become a subject of historical interest. As we decipher a coin of Constantine, we are impelled at once to take down our history of him and read it with renewed interest. We have something before us of the very man himself, around which clusters everything pertaining to his whole life.

Many of the coins in this collection are very rare. The first silver coin struck in the United States, in 1794, was sold a few years since in Philadelphia, for two hundred and eighty-five dollars. Such collections are by no means useless. They tell us much of the state of the arts, as well as of the customs and manners of the period in which they were made. We saw in this collection an early Roman coin, on which was represented a body of cavalry. Here were the trappings and head armor of the horses, and the bows and arrows of the cavaliers. Another coin gives us an exact idea of a Roman helmet and sword. All these things serve to confirm the history of the past, and furnish great pleasure to one with taste and means for collecting them.

☞ The annual report of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of Augusta, Mr. P. O. Vickery, has been issued in pamphlet form, by order of the fire organizations of the city. The report is well written and contains many facts and suggestions of importance, to which we trust proper attention will be given by the City Government, and our citizens generally. Mr. Vickery reports thirteen alarms of fire during the past year, five of them supposed to have been of incendiary origin. Total amount of losses, $43,700; insurance, only $2,250.

The report shows that our city has fifteen reservoirs, two of which are private, but would be used in case of fire, with a total capacity of 3050 hogsheads of one hundred gallon each. He deems it for the interest of the city to keep on increasing the number, two or three each year, and suggests that two be built the present season, one on Cony street, east side near Cony Academy, and one at the junction of Green and Chapel streets.

The Weather during the past week has seemed more like April than March, and unless we are to have an unusually early spring, we shall certainly have more than our usual quantity of mud and the attendant bad traveling. Since Friday last it has been damp and foggy, but with little rain until Tuesday night, when it commenced raining gently and steadily, making a decided impression upon the snow and rendering travelling by sleighs quite unpleasant, in this vicinity at least. As the river is very low, the ground dry and the snow not consolidated by rain or thaws during the winter, little apprehension is felt of a spring freshet.

☞ Repairs have been commenced on the Baptist church in this city. It is to be entirely rebuilt, moved from its foundation to face Winthrop street, and a new spire to be added. The contract for the work has been taken by Messrs. Pinkham & Wyman of this city. During the summer the society will worship in the old Universalist Church, the use of which has been kindly offered them for the purpose by the latter society, and services will be held there on the next Sabbath.

☞ Walter Hatch, Esq., Superintendent, and J. S. Cushing, Esq., Treasurer of the Portland & Kennebec Railroad, sailed on Saturday last from New York, in the steamer George Cromwell, for New Orleans, on a trip for rest and health. The wishes of many friends will constantly follow them in their southern journeyings, for their restoration to health and safe return to their families.

☞ At the second trial in Portland for the election of Mayor, on Monday last, there was again no choice. McLellan, republican, received 2,718 votes; Putnam, democrat, 2,629; Deering, independent republican, 286. The total vote thrown was 735 larger than at the previous trial. The election of Mayor now devolves upon the two branches of the City Council.

Village District. A special meeting of the village district is called for Saturday, 21st inst., at 3 o'clock, P. M., to hear the report of the Directors, upon the subject of providing additional accommodation for the schools of the district, and to take such action thereon as may be deemed advisable.

Considerable building is to be done in this city the present season, and with the opening of the spring campaign we may reasonably look for the resumption of a more healthy activity in all departments of our city industries.

☞ Our streets are now in a condition unfit for runners, and most of the city teams have put them aside for wheels.

### *Editorial Correspondence.*

Portland, March 10, 1868.

Dear Farmer:—We have been spending a day or two in this city, to see what we can note down for the gratification of our readers. It is now a year and three-quarters since the terrible fire. Two days after that event we strolled among the still heated ruins, where we witnessed the greatest picture of desolation that we ever expect to see. The business of a city, and a large portion of its dwellings and churches and public buildings laid in ashes, is no ordinary event. But we have been quite as much astonished to see how it has been rebuilt in so short a time, or rather, to see how much has been done in so short a time.

The business portion has nearly been built up. A few ugly gaps still remain, but the new buildings are elegant and on the most improved plan. Old houses full of rats and the *Cimex* family of insects, have been burned up, and their places filled with handsome dwellings. A new park has been laid out in the centre of the city and filled with trees, and is already surrounded with dwellings. It will eventually be a lovely spot. The Baptist Church now building, promises to present one of the finest fronts to be seen anywhere. The City Hall has a new dome, which is a wonderful improvement over the old one. Its principal hall is one of the best in the country. A large room has been given to the use of the Portland Natural History Society, which has lost by fire two valuable collections of minerals. We hope another similar calamity will not befall them. They have already made a fine beginning. The new school house is a large and commodious structure, though we don't know to what order of architecture its spire belongs. It looks like a crushed tarpaulin hat. We took a look into the new quarters of the editorial fraternity, where all shades of opinion congregate, and from which a vast amount of reading emanates every day for the pleasure and benefit of the public. We did not see but that the editors were as clever and peaceful as other folks. A single engine carries all the presses, and the whole building is well adapted to their work. A public city library has been initiated since the fire, and already numbers over four thousand volumes. The city is becoming largely engaged in manufactures, which, in connection with her commerce, renders her future very promising. Men who lost heavily by the fire have felt oftentimes cramped in their plans, but it has imbued them with a better habit of economy, and the lesson of life, though a severe one, will eventually make them noble men. The prosperity of the city has much to do with the prosperity of the country. If the city flourishes, it forms a better market for the farmer.

There is one peculiarity of the cities in Maine, which we do not remember to have seen noticed. It is the fact that they are not, and cannot be rivals of each other. They may have a fancied jealousy or rivalry, but it is not real. Each city is in a great measure independent of the others in its commercial relations. They all in one sense have a common rival in Boston and New York. A railroad now in progress from Portland to Ogdensburg on Lake Erie, will make Portland a more formidable rival to Boston than ever before, and when built will have an important influence upon the western portion of the State. It is the shortest route from the great West to the Atlantic coast. If the farmers of Maine *must* buy flour from the West, it is a matter of importance to them to have as direct and cheap a communication as possible.

Among the public buildings now in process of erection is Brown's Hotel. It has a splendid front, and when opened to the public will meet a want which has long been felt by the travelling public. The introduction of water into the city from Sebago Lake has been determined upon, and operations are to commence, we understand, the present year. Its horse railroads are serving to enlarge the boundaries of cities, so that many persons doing business in the city can make their homes out of town. While here we had the pleasure of listening to a lecture before the Mercantile Library Association, by Geo. W. Curtis, Esq., editor of *Harper's Weekly*, New York, on Dickens and his writings. As Mr. Dickens is expected to lecture here in a few days, the lecture was listened to with intense interest. The performance was very scholarly and ably handled, and no better advertisement to the advent of Dickens could have been well devised.

Remarkable Escape. The Lewiston *Journal* relates the narrow escape of John Creedan, who, with others, was engaged in clearing away ice from the top of one of the dams. Creedan was missed from the verge of the dam, where a moment before he had been standing on a cake of ice. After some search his head was discovered at the surface of the water some fifteen feet below the dam, and through the efforts of his fellow workmen he was rescued, by being hooked up with ice-tongs. It appears that the cake of ice on which he stood was carried over by the force of the water, and fortunately he seized a strip of old bagging which had frozen in at just the right place, and kept his head above the surface until aid came.

Fatal Accidents. The Dover *Observer* says that Mr. Stanley S. Whittier, an only son of Mr. Daniel B. Whittier, of Dover, was so severely injured by a falling tree, while lumbering in Michigan, on the 17th of February, as to cause death about three hours after the accident occurred.

On Sunday last, a son of Samson Colby of Topsham, aged about thirteen, was playing on some logs on the bank of the Androscoggin, collecting pitch, when the snow which held one of them crumbled, and the log rolled over on him, crushing his skull, breaking his arm and inflicting other severe injuries. He lived but three hours after the accident.

An Important Measure. A bill has passed both Houses of Congress, repealing so much of the act of February 5th, 1867, as allows appeals in *habeas corpus* to the Supreme Court. The effect of this bill if it becomes a law, will be to take the McArdle case now being argued before the Supreme Bench, out of court. The counsel for McArdle claim that under the law as it stands, the court has right to to pass judgment in the case, though the opposing counsel deny jurisdiction under this or any other law. The bill now awaits the President's signature.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston *Journal* states that at a meeting of the Board of Managers of the National Military Asylums, held in that city on Friday last, Gen. Butler was elected President. It was decided to rebuild the Asylum at Togus, provided it can be done at an expense of $25,000 in addition to what may be donated or appropriated by Congress. All of the officers there, except Major Cutler, the Deputy Governor, are to be discharged.

☞ James Thorne, an inmate of the State Prison at Thomaston under sentence of death for upwards of twenty-four years, for murder, publishes an earnest appeal to the Christian citizens of the State of Maine, urging them to unite in an effort to secure his release. He is said to have been very orderly, quiet and industrious during his long confinement, and it is the opinion of the Warden of the Prison that he is a deserving object of executive clemency.

☞ Gen. Samuel Veazie, a wealthy and influential citizen of Bangor, died in that city on Thursday evening last, at the advanced age of eighty-one years. His health has been gradually failing for some time past, but nevertheless he was able to attend to business until he died. He was the wealthiest man in Eastern Maine.

☞ It will be seen by the impeachment proceedings in the Senate on Friday last, as reported in another part of our paper, that the time fixed for the President to file his answer to the charges, is Monday, 23d inst. The Managers on the part of the House, it is stated will be ready at that time to proceed with the trial, although it is expected that the President's counsel will ask for further time to prepare the defense.

☞ Mr. Stanberry's resignation of the office of Attorney General has been accepted, in order that he may act as President Johnson's counsel during the impeachment trial. His successor has not yet been named. Mr. Browning, Secretary of the Interior, has been appointed Acting Attorney General and will attend to the duties of the position until a new appointment is made.

☞ The trial of Jeff Davis, which was to have been commenced in the last week in March, has been postponed by order of Judge Underwood to the 14th of April.

☞ Gen. Hancock, in compliance with his request, has been relieved from the command of the military district of Louisiana and Texas, and is now on his way to Washington.

### *Organization of the City Government for 1868.*

The members elect of the two branches of the City Council, met at the Common Council room in Granite Hall, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Monday, 16th inst., when the qualifying oath of office was administered.

The Aldermen having retired, the Common Council organized by the choice of Al Staples, Esq., of Ward 2, as President, and Levi Page, as Clerk.

Subsequently in joint convention, the Mayor elect, Hon. Daniel Williams, appeared, and the oath of office having been administered by W. P. Whitehouse, Esq., City Clerk, proceeded to deliver the following

ADDRESS:

*Gentlemen of the City Council:*

In pursuance of the provisions of our city charter, we are assembled at the commencement of a new municipal year, to enter upon the duties assigned us respectively by our fellow citizens, and having taken upon ourselves a solemn oath faithfully and impartially to discharge the duties thus devolving upon us, we are to go forward, uncommitted to any schemes of doubtful utility, with a fixed and unalterable purpose, to adopt such measures and such only, as shall promote in the highest degree, the best interests of our much loved city.

It is meet and proper in the first place, that we should render our tribute of praise and thanksgiving to the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, for the many blessings vouchsafed to us as individuals and a community the past year, and for immunity from pestilential and wasting diseases and destructive conflagrations, and that notwithstanding the general depression and stagnation of business throughout the country, our city has still enjoyed a good degree of prosperity. The first and most engrossing subject that will come before you, is the matter of our finances, always a question of deep and abiding interest to those who must bear the expenses of the government under which they live.

By the Report of the City Auditor, which will soon be laid before you, it will be seen that the total debt of the city is about $400,000, being a very large advance upon any exhibit which has heretofore been presented to the city of its indebtedness. Whatever views may be entertained of the expediency of some of the measures which have thus enhanced the amount of our indebtedness beyond former years, it is nevertheless a *fixed fact* upon us, and is to be met cheerfully and faithfully.

The character of our city, its wealth, population and business, alike demand that early and ample provision be made for the prompt and punctual payment of the principal and interest of our indebtedness as it matures.

Our city, aside from the very large amount exempted from taxation (probably a million of dollars) has a valuation of about four millions, thus showing, however large our liabilities, that we have ample ability to meet them, and I am happy to say, that the credit of our city in the money markets of the country, is fully equal to that of our sister cities in Maine.

In consequence of the very heavy burdens thrown upon the country growing out of the late civil war, it is not unexpected that dissatisfaction is felt and expressed, that so large an amount of its moneyed capital should be locked up and placed beyond the power of local taxation. As an abstract question, this dissatisfaction is well founded. Among the prominent objects of all well organized governments, is that of the *protection* of the property of its citizens, and it follows as an act of fairness and common justice, that the property so protected shall bear its proper and just share of the burdens growing out of the maintenance of the government *which so protects it*. Yet I am constrained to say to you that this is a question with which we have nothing to do and cannot intermeddle. The government in its extremity for the maintenance of our Union and the suppression of the rebellion lately existing, was obliged to go into the money markets of the world, for the means of maintaining its very existence. Now, upon whatever terms and conditions money was thus furnished, it becomes a solemn contract between the parties, and as a *contract* should be faithfully and honestly carried out in accordance with its terms. Among these terms is a clear inhibition of municipal taxation, whatever may be said in regard to the implied reservation of the government to tax them itself.

I however, have an abiding confidence that ere long, some plan will be matured by the government, with the consent and agreement of the several bondholders, by which this immense property, so long exempted from the common burdens of the country, shall be restored to its proper place, and bear with others, its share in supporting the government under which we live.

The reports of the several departments will be laid before you in a printed form. As yet, I have had no opportunity of examining them; but as these departments are so systematically organized, I have no doubt when presented, they will indicate to you clearly and distinctly, the actual condition of our city and, the working of our system of government.

Whatever may have been the result of the financial operations of the last year, I know it is expected of us that our appropriations for the current year shall be materially reduced, and kept down to the lowest possible limit consistent with the well being of our city. To this end, there must be a watchful and scrutinizing care in every department—appropriations must be wisely, carefully and discreetly made, and all projects, not involving the absolute and necessary wants of the city, laid aside.

With regard to appropriations for the current year, there are some, in relation to which we have no discretion. They are imperative upon us, and it only remains that we make provision for their payment. I now refer to the interest on our debt, our apportionment of the State and county taxes, and the required amount for our common schools. Beyond these, the whole matter of our expenditures is placed in your sound and discriminating judgment, and I cannot but repeat, that our constituents demand of us a wise and careful outlay of their money.

As already stated to you, I know nothing of the workings and expenditures of the several departments for the past year, and therefore am not prepared to suggest any reforms, if such there can be, in the management of the varied interests of the city. When we come to a full knowledge of what has been done, it will remain for us to see what improvement, if any, we can make upon it. Our city, from its position as the capital of Maine, its population, business and wealth, necessarily casts upon its municipal government in the management of its varied interests and affairs, a responsibility which might well deter us from assuming it; but having assumed it, we have no alternative but to do our duty fearlessly, faithfully and impartially towards all of our fellow citizens, and insist that nothing shall escape our supervision detrimental to the interests of the city. In furtherance of these views, let me say that it is of the utmost importance, that those who may be selected to fill the various offices under our system of government should be men eminently qualified by their character, capacity and efficiency, to perform the duties assigned them, and thus assist in carrying through successfully and economically the municipal affairs of our city the ensuing year.

In conclusion, permit me to avail myself of this occasion, to tender to my fellow citizens my thanks for the honor they have done me in placing me in my present responsible position. I enter upon the office with the full purpose of discharging its duties with whatever of ability I possess, and with entire fairness and impartiality towards all. Augusta is the city of my nativity, and here I have lived and had my home these many long years, feeling, I may almost say, an intense interest in its growth, welfare and prosperity, and I trust the results of our labors for the current year will show no abatement of our pride and interest in its continued prosperity.

I here with pleasure, tender to the late Mayor, my thanks for his proffered and willing aid in the new and untried field before us. From his long experience and intimate knowledge of all the material interests of the city, his suggestions and opinions upon these topics may well be thankfully received and respected. In the out-going of one administration and the incoming of another, it is pleasant thus to meet and to be assured of a continued interest and effort to promote the wellfare and prosperity of our city. Let us then do nothing unworthy of ourselves, unworthy of the high reputation our our city, and in so doing you may rely upon my ready and willing co-operation.

D. WILLIAMS.

At the conclusion of the Mayor's address, the convention proceeded to the election of city officers, as follows:

*City Clerk*—G. P. Cochrane.
*City Marshal*—John M. Plummer.
*City Physician*—Dr. Geo. W. Martin.
*City Solicitor*—James W. Bradbury, Jr.
*Treasurer and Collector*—John P. Deering.
*Superintending School Committee*—G. P. Cochrane, S. W. Lane, Samuel Upjohn.
*Assessors*—Artemas Libbey, Wm. K. Lancey, E. B. Thorn.
*Street Engineer*—John A. Pettingill.
*Overseers of the Poor*—Harvey Chisam, Ephraim Ballard, Bradbury Libbey.
*Chief Engineer Fire Department*—P. O. Vickery; *1st Assistant*—Chas. B. Cunningham; *2d Assistant*—Daniel Herren.
*City Constable*—John M. Plummer.
*Board of Health*—J. M. Plummer, G. W. Martin, J. M. Thompson.

The following police were appointed by the Board of Aldermen upon the nomination of the City Marshal: W. S. Kimball, Chas. McLaughlin, Nelson S. Neal, Frank Flye, Chas. Cunningham, A. R. Soule, Jefferson Rankins.

The Council adjourned to meet on Saturday afternoon, 21st inst., at 2 o'clock, for the purpose of completing the election of city officers.

Town Officers. *Mt. Vernon.* Moderator, D. H. Thing; Clerk, A. S. Lyford; Selectmen, Simeon Leighton, D. H. Thing, A. S. Lyford; S. S. Committee, S. Burbank, James F. Blunt, Francis Lyford; Treasurer, Francis Lyford; Collector and Constable, James F. Blunt.

### *The Impeachment Trial.*

The following are the proceedings of the Senate on Friday last, on the impeachment case, as reported in full in the Boston *Journal*. We propose to keep our readers posted in the progress of this important trial, and these preliminary proceedings, although occupying considerable space to the exclusion of other matters, will be found of sufficient interest to justify us in so giving them a place in our columns:

At one o'clock the morning hour having expired, the Chief Justice took the Chair, and the Sergeant-at-Arms made proclamation in the usual form, and the Secretary read the journal of the last meeting of the Court, a large number of Representatives, headed by the Managers of Impeachment, meanwhile standing in file outside the open door.

On motion of Mr. Howard, an order was made that the Sergeant-at-Arms notify the House that the Senate is organized as a Court of Impeachment and ready to proceed with the trial of Andrew Johnson. Immediately thereafter the managers and members of the House took the seats provided for them, Mr. Butler being absent.

The Senators who had not already done so took the oath.

The return of the Sergeant-at-Arms of his service of the summons on the President was read, when on motion of Mr. Johnson, the counsel of the President were notified of the commencement of proceedings, and Messrs. Stanberry, Curtis and Nelson took their seats at the table on the right of the Chief Justice, and opposite the Managers, who were seated on the left.

At 20 minutes past 1 o'clock the Sergeant-at-Arms announced the members of the House of Representatives, and the members entered and distributed themselves as far as possible among the chairs and sofas not already occupied by those having entree to the Chamber under the rules. Many, however, did not find seats at once.

Mr. Stanberry then rose and said: Mr. Chief Justice, my brothers, Curtis and Nelson, and myself are here this morning as counsel for the President. I have his authority to enter his plea. By your leave I will proceed to read. Mr. Stanberry read as follows: "In the matter of the impeachment of the President of the United States by the House of Representative, I, President Johnson, having been served with a summons to appear before the High Court of Impeachment, and to answer to certain articles of impeachment presented against him by the House of Representatives, hereby enter my appearance by my counsel Messrs. Stanberry, Curtis, Evarts, Nelson and Black, and they have my warrant therefor and are instructed by me to ask of this honorable court reasonable time for the preparation of my answer to said articles.

After a careful consideration of the articles of impeachment, and on consultation with my counsel, I am satisfied that forty days are necessary for the preparation of my answer, and I ask that that time be granted."

Mr. Stanberry. I have also a professional statement to make, but whether I am in order to make it now I leave with the Court to decide.

The Chief Justice. The appearance will be considered as entered; you may proceed.

Mr. Stanberry. In support of the motion asking forty days to answer the articles of impeachment, I have to submit the following professional statement. The articles of impeachment are eleven in number, involving many questions of law and of fact. We have during the limited time afforded us, considered as far as possible the field of investigation that will be covered in the preparation of the answer. We are compelled to the conclusion that with our utmost efforts the time asked is reasonable and necessary. The precedents we have had time to examine in the matter of former impeachments are those of Justice Chase and Justice Peck. In the case of the impeachment of Justice Chase the Court allowed from the 3d of January to the 4th of February to the defendant to put in his answer—a period of thirty days; but in this case there were only eight articles of impeachment, and the defendant was cognizant of the nature of the articles, and had for some time been making preparations to meet them. In the Peck case there was only a single article, and the defendant asked time to the 25th of May to put in an answer, and it was granted, although it appeared that Justice Peck had long been cognizant of the charges against him and had been present before a committee of the House of Representatives and examined witnesses. It is apparent, therefore, that the President of the United States, here impeached, is fairly entitled to more time than was allowed on the two cases I have cited. It is proper to add that the respondents in other cases were lawyers capable of preparing their own answer, besides, having no pressing professional duties to interfere with them. President Johnson, not being a lawyer, must rely upon his counsel, and he must be advised by consultation, step by step, on the preparation of his defence; it is indeed very seldom that a case requiring such constant consideration as the answer, and yet such communication with the President can only be had at such intervals as the press of public business will permit to be devoted to this business. We further beg leave to suggest to the consideration of the Court that the counsel, careful of their own reputation and careful of the interests of their client, in a case of such magnitude as this, have a right to claim the amplest time for preparation to meet the great responsibility devolving upon them. I am done.

Mr. Bingham replied, and Mr. Curtis for the counsel for the President, said:

*Mr. Chief Justice:* If the construction which the managers have put upon the rule be correct, the counsel for the President have been entirely misled by the phraseology of the rule. They (meaning the counsel for the President) have construed the rule in the limit of similar rules existing in courts of justice. For instance, in a Court of Equity, the order in a subpœna is to appear on a certain day and answer the plea. But, certainly, it was never understood that they were to answer the plea on the day of their appearance. So it is in a variety of other legal proceedings. Parties are summoned to appear on a certain day, but the day when they are to answer is either fixed by some general rule of the tribunal, or there is to be a special order. In this particular case now here we find a rule by which the President is required to appear this day to answer and abide; certainly that part of the rule which says to abide has reference to future proceedings and the final result of the case, and so far as we have construed the rule, or that part of it which relates to answering it has reference to a future proceeding, we submit, therefore, as counsel for the President, that the interpretation which is put on the rule by the honorable manager is not a correct one.

Mr. Wilson, one of the managers, said, Mr. President, I desire to say in behalf of the managers, that we do not see how it would be possible for the eighth rule adopted by the Senate to mislead the respondent or his counsel; that rule provides that upon presentation of the articles of impeachment, and the organization of the Senate as hereinbefore provided, a writ of summons shall issue to the accused, reciting such articles, and notifying him to appear before the Senate upon the day and at the place to be fixed by the Senate, and named in such writ, and file his answer to said articles of impeachment, and to stand and abide such orders and judgments of the Senate thereon. The rule further provides that if the accused after service shall fail to appear in person or attorney on the day fixed therefor as aforesaid, or appearing, shall fail to file his answer to such articles of impeachment, the trial shall proceed nevertheless as upon a plea of not guilty.

Mr. Sherman moved that the day for the answer be fixed as April 6th.

Mr. Butler asked to be heard on behalf of the managers, and asked why railroad speed should not be used on this trial. He said railroads and telegraphs could be used for bringing witnesses, &c., and affected all the business of life. He contended that the rules and precedents of ordinary courts were not applicable to this trial. In ordinary trials no dangers resulted from delay. In this case the necessity for prompt action was pressing. The respondent at the bar controlled the power of the nation, and might in any moment of passion and prejudice wrongly use it for the injury and ruin of the country. The business of the War Department would stop until the result of this trial was reached. The pulse of nature beats imperturably while this trial goes on. He claimed that an earlier day should be fixed for the defendant's appearance, and if then he can show that he has not had time to prepare, grant him the indulgence of further time. He said the defendant knew on the 22d of February what he would have to do, and he had fourteen days longer time for preparation than the managers. He remarked that it could not be said hereafter that the charges were frivolous, because the accused says they are so grave that he will need forty days to prepare an answer to them. The learned counsel in his professional statement submitted to the Senate, refers to the case of Judge Chase and Judge Peck, and I presume that in the examination of the records of this case, the attention of the counsel was directed to the rules adopted by the Senate for the government of its actions on the arguments of these cases. By reference to the rules adopted by the Senate for the trial of Judge Peck we find that a very material change has been made by the Senate in the adoption of the present rule. The rule in the case of Judge Peck, being the 8d rule, prescribing the summons, required that on the day to be fixed the respondent should then and there appear and answer. The same rule was adopted in the Chase case, but the present, as to the rule in this case, the words to which I have called the attention of Senators, are: "He shall appear and file his answer to said articles of impeachment, and that appearing in person he shall fail to file his answer to such articles, the trial shall proceed, nevertheless, as on a plea of not guilty." I submit, therefore, Mr. President, that the change which has been made in the rules for the government of this case must have been made for some good reason; what that reason may have been may be made the subject of discussion in this case hereafter. But the change meets us on the presentation of this motion, and we, therefore, on the part of the House of Representatives, which we are here representing, ask that the rule adopted by the Senate for the government of this case may be enforced. It is for the Senate to say whether the rule shall be sustained as a rule to govern the case, or whether it shall be changed, but standing as a rule at this time, we ask for its enforcement.

Mr. Stanberry spoke, expressing his surprise at the undue haste demonstrated, and stating the absence of the President's counsel; that there had been a trap set for Mr. Johnson and his counsel, and that the proceedings were worthy of the worst days of the Star Chamber.

The Chief Justice, rising, said: The Chief Justice would state at the start that he is embarrassed in the construction of rule 21. The rule provided that the case on each side may be opened by one person. He understands that as referring to the case when the evidence and the case are ready for the argument. The 20th rule provides that all preliminary or interlocutory questions and all motions, shall be argued for not exceeding one hour on each side, unless the Senate shall by order extend the time. Whether that is intended to apply to the whole argument on each side, or the arguments of each counsel who may address the court, is a question which the Chief Justice is at a loss to solve. In the present case he has allowed the argument to proceed without attempting to restrict it, and unless the Senate order otherwise, he will proceed in that course.

Mr. Bingham said that it was not his purpose, in raising the question under the rule prescribed by the Senate, to touch in any way upon the merits of any application that might be made for the extension of time; his only object was to see whether the Senate is disposed to abide by its own rules, and to remind Senators that in thus proceeding, they are a rule and law unto themselves. Neither common law or civil law furnish any rule whatever for conducting the trial, save, it may be, the rules which govern in matters of evidence. There is nothing more clearly settled in this country, and in that country from which we derive our laws generally, than the proposition which we have just stated, and hence it follows that the Senate shall prescribe rules for conducting the trial, and having prescribed rules, my associate managers and I deem it important to inquire whether these rules, on the very threshold of the proceedings, were to be disregarded and set aside. I may be pardoned for saying that I am greatly surprised at the hasty words which dropped from the lips of my learned and accomplished friend (Mr. Stanberry); that he failed to discriminate between the objection made here and the objections which might hereafter be made for a motion for continuance of the trial; but, Mr. President, there is nothing clearer, nothing better known to my learned and accomplished friend than that making an issue before any tribunal of justice and this trial are very distinct transactions. That is perfectly well understood. A very remarkable case in State trial lies before me, where Lord Holt presided at the trial of Sir Richard Brown, Preston and others for high treason, and when counsel appeared, as gentlemen appeared this morning, in Court to ask for a continuance, the answer which fell from the lips of the Lord Chief Justice perpetually was: "We are not to consider the question of the trial or the time of the trial until the plea be pleaded, because," as his Lordship very well remarked, "it may happen that no trial will be required." Perchance you may plead guilty to the indictment, and so the rule lying before us contemplated. The last clause of it provides that if the defendant appeared and shall plead guilty there may be no further proceedings in the case, no trial about it. Nothing would remain to be done but to pronounce judgment under the Constitution. It is time for us to talk about the trial when we have an issue. The rule is a plain and simple one, and I may be pardoned for saying that I fail to perceive anything in rules ten and eleven to which the learned counsel have referred, which by any kind of construction can be applied to limit the effect of the words in rule eight, to wit: That if the party fail to appear, either in person or by counsel, on the day named in the summons, the trial shall proceed as on the plea of not guilty; and further, that if failing on the day named in the summons, either in person or by attorney, to answer articles, the trial shall nevertheless proceed as on a plea of not guilty. When the words are plain in written law, there is an end of construction; they shall be followed. The Managers so thought when they appeared at this bar. All that they ask is, that the rule be enforced, not postponed for forty days, to be met at the end of that time, perhaps, with a dilatory plea and motion, if you please, to quash the articles, or with a question raising inquiry whether this is a Senate of the United States. It seems to me, if I may be pardoned for making one other remark, that in prescribing both these rules, that the summons shall issue to be returned on a day certain given, as in this case, six days in advance, it was intended thereby to enable the party on the day fixed for his appearance to come to the bar and make his answer to these articles. I may be pardoned for saying further, what is doubtless known to every one within the hearing of my voice, that the technical rules do in no way control or limit or temper the action of this body; that under a plea of not guilty every conceivable defence which this party can make to these articles, if they be articles at all, if they be preferred by a competent tribunal at all, can be attempted; why, then, this delay of forty days to draw up an answer? What we desire to know on behalf of the House of Representatives, by whose order we appear here, is whether an answer is to be not filed, or whether the rule itself is to be enforced by the Senate and a plea of not guilty entered upon the accused? That is our inquiry. It is not my purpose to enter on a discussion at all, as to postponing the day for the progress of the trial. My desire is for the present, to see whether, under the rule, and by force of this rule, we can obtain an issue.

Chief Justice—Senators, the counsel for the President submit a motion that forty days be allowed for the preparation of his answer. The rule requires that every question shall be taken without debate, you who are in favor of agreeing to that motion, say aye.

Senator Edmunds rising, said—Mr. President, on this subject I submit the following order: *Ordered*, that the respondent file his answer to the articles of impeachment on or before the 1st day of April next, and that the managers of impeachment file their replication thereto within three days thereafter, and that the matter stand for trial on Monday, April 6th.

Moved that the Senate retire for the purpose of consultation.

Mr. Bingham—I am instructed by the managers to request that the Senate shall pass on the motion under the eighth rule, and reject the application to defer the day of answer.

The Chief Justice—The Chief Justice will recognize the motion of the Senator from Vermont, (Mr. Edmunds,) as an amendment to the motion, submitted by the counsel for the President.

Senator Conkling—What is to become of the motion of the Senator from Indiana (Morton)?

Senator Sumner—What was the motion of the Senator from Indiana?

Senator Conkling—That the Senate retire, for the purpose of consultation.

Senator Sumner—That is the true motion.

The Chief Justice put the question and declared it carried, and the Senate then retired from the chamber at two o'clock P M.

The galleries thinned considerably, while the Court held consultation, and the floor presented very much the appearance of a country court room when the jury had retired and the court was in recess, not half the House and occupants of the floor remaining, and they scattered in knots among Senators' seats and elsewhere. The managers, meanwhile, occasionally consulted or pored over books bound in law calf. Mr. Stevens discussed with apparent relish some raw oysters brought him from the refectory. Mr. Wade was on the floor during most of the time occupied by the consultation.

At seven minutes past four o'clock the Senators re-entered and took their seats.

Mr. Bingham offered an order that the trial proceed forthwith on the managers filing an application, which was rejected by the following vote:

*Yeas*—Messrs. Cameron, Cattell, Chandler, Cole, Conkling, Conness, Corbett, Drake, Ferry, Harlow, Howard, Morgan, Morton, Nye, Patterson of New Hampshire, Pomeroy, Ramsey, Ross, Stuart, Sumner, Thayer, Tipton, Williams, Wilson, and Yates—25.

*Nays*—Messrs. Anthony, Bayard, Buckalew, Davis, Dixon, Edmunds, Fessenden, Fowler, Frelinghuysen, Grimes, Henderson, Hendricks, Howe, Johnson, McCreery, Morrill of Maine, Morrill of Vermont, Norton, Patterson of Tennessee, Saulsbury, Sherman, Sprague, Trumbull, Van Winkle, Vickers and Willey.—26. (Mr. Wade did not vote.)

Senator Sherman offered the following order, which was read:

Ordered, That the trial of the Articles of Impeachment shall proceed on the 6th day of April next.

Senator Howard—I hope not, Mr. President.

Senator Wilson moved to amend by making it the first instead of the sixth of April next.

Mr. Butler—I would like to inquire of the President of the Senate if the managers on the part of the House have a right to be heard upon this matter.

The Chief Justice—The Chair is of the opinion that the managers have a right to be heard.

Mr. Butler—Mr. President and gentlemen of the Senate: However ungracious it may seem on the part of the managers representing the House of Representatives, and thereby representing the people of the United States, in pressing an early trial of the accused, yet our duty to those who send us, representing their wishes, speaking in their behalf and by their command, the peace of the country, and the interests of the people all seem to require that we should urge the speediest possible trial. Among the reasons why the trial is sought to be delayed, the learned counsel who appears for the accused have brought to the attention of the Senate precedents in early days. We are told that railroad speed was not to be used on this trial. Sir, why not? Railroads have effected everything else in this world. Telegraphs have brought places together that were thousands of miles apart. It takes infinitely less time, if I may use so strong an expression, to bring a witness from California now than it took to send to Philadelphia for one in the case of the trial of Judge Chase, and therefore we must not shut our eyes to the fact that there are railroads and there are telegraphs to give the accused the privilege of calling his counsel together, and of getting answers from any witness that he may have summoned, and to bring them here. It should have an important bearing on the course we are to take. That, I submit, is not to be overlooked. Railroads and telegraphs have changed the order of things. In every other business of life we recognize that fact; why should we not in this? Passing from that which is but an incident, a detail, perhaps, you will allow me to suggest that ordinary Courts of Justice, ordinary delays of Courts, ordinary time given in ordinary cases for men to answer who are called before Courts of Justice, have no application to this case. Not even, sir, when the cases are heard and determined before the Supreme Court of the United States are the rules applicable to this particular case, for this reason, if no other, that when ordinary trials are had, when ordinary questions are examined at the bar of any court of Justice, there is no danger to the Commonwealth in the delay. The Republic may take no detriment if the trial is delayed. To give the accused time interferes with nobody; to give him indulgence hurts no one and may help him. But the House of representatives have presented at the bar of the Senate in most solemn form the chief ruler of the nation, and they pray and desire your judgment upon the accusation that he has usurped power that does not belong to him, that he is at the same time breaking laws solemnly enacted by you and those that have sent you here, by the Congress of the United States, and that he still proposes so to do.—Sir, who is the criminal? I beg pardon of counsel for the respondent. He is the chief executive of the nation. When I have said that I have taken out from all rule this trial, because, I submit, with deference, sir, that for the first time in the history of the world has a nation brought

# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.


CONGRESSIONAL. During the pendency of the impeachment trial, the proceedings of Congress will possess little comparative interest, and we shall therefore, confine ourselves to the briefest possible reference to the measures which may be under consideration.

On Thursday, 12th inst., in the House, a message was received from the President informing the House that the act to amend the supplementary reconstruction bill had been presented to him February 28th, and not having been returned by him to the House, had become a law.

In the Senate on Monday, Mr. Sherman reported back the House bill exempting manufacturers from internal taxation, with an amendment retaining the tax on coffee, spices, refined sugar, candy, diamonds, jewelry and watches.

In the House, Mr. Pike of Maine, introduced a bill to promote American commerce. The first section provides that the tonnage tax imposed by section fifteen of the act of July 14, 1862, increasing temporarily the duties on imports, and for other purposes, shall be collected only from vessels arriving from foreign ports. The second section provides for the drawback on shipbuilders' materials. The third section repeals the first section of July 14, 1862, for the collection of revenue upon the northern, northeastern frontiers. The fourth section provides that United States vessels of less than twenty tons burden, shall not be enrolled, but shall be licensed.

Mr. Washburne of Indiana, introduced a bill repealing so much of the provision of the act of 1866, to fix the number of Judges of the Supreme Court, as provides that any vacancy in the office of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States shall be filled by appointment until the number of Associate Judges shall be reduced to six.

On motion of Gen. Butler, the rules were suspended so as to allow the impeachment managers to present any matter relating to impeachment to the House at any time.

BANGOR PRODUCE MARKET. Loose hay in our market is selling at from $12 to $16; pressed do. $16 to $18; straw from $8 to $9; pressed do. $10; oats, 90c to 95c; yellow eyed beans have sold for the last few days from $4 50 to $4.75, and extra pea beans from $4 75 to $5.00—some very nice lots selling at $5 15; potatoes selling quick at $1 10 to $1.15; dried apple, but few coming in and selling dull at 13 to 15 cents; butter, good winter 40 cents; good solid, 42 to 45 cents; nice fall made from 45 to 48 cents, and some very choice lots going at 50 to 52 cents; eggs 22 cents; round hogs from 11 to 13 cents; smoked hams at 14 to 15 cents; shoulders 12 cents; corn is selling from the stores at $1.55 to $1 60; meal $1.55; flour good western extra from $13 to $13 50.—*Bangor Whig.*

REPEAL OF TAXES ON MANUFACTURES. The House of Representatives has passed a bill relieving all domestic manufactures of the five per cent. tax, except oils distilled from coal, fermented liquors, distilled spirits, tobacco, snuff, cigars, and illuminating gas. This scheme contemplates removing an annual burden of $84,000,000 on the industrial interests of the nation, and substituting for it new special taxes which will not exceed $20,000,000. If this measure is approved by the Senate, as we trust it will be, one of the most potent causes of the existing business depression will be removed after the present month, and the mills and workshops of the land will once more be thronged with active laborers.


"Throw physic to the dogs; I'll none of it.
To make assurance doubly sure
Try take"—PLANTATION BITTERS
They never fail.

This great Stomach Healer is just what the people need. It is a remedy they can rely on. For Dyspepsia, Heartburn, Headache, Dizziness, Ague, Liver Complaints, Pain in the Side and back it has no equal; not the least among its virtues is its excellent pleasantness to the taste and *immediate* beneficial effect.—Try it, suffering Dyspeptics, and be cured. Such are the assertions of those situated to know. From the vast amount of the article sold, it must have great merit.

"ECONOMY IS WEALTH." Whoever buys a cheap compound of saleratus throws away his money. Those who purchase Pyle's Saleratus get a pure and wholesome article at half its value and double their outlay. See that your grocer gives you Pyle's Saleratus, in pound packages, full weight.

PHALON AND THE POPE. Three new Italian bells were baptized by the Pope a short time ago—thousands of American belles are self-baptized every day with Phalon's "Flor de Mayo," the new perfume for the handkerchief. Sold by all druggists. 2w

MAGNOLIA WATER. A delightful toilet article—superior to Cologne, and at half the price. 1y81


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Having a direct influence to the parts, give immediate relief **For Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, Consumptive and Throat Diseases,** Troches are used with always good success.

**Singers and Public Speakers** use them to clear and strengthen the voice.

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GREEN'S SAILORS' HOME, } Poplar Street, London, England. }

I take this method of making known the perfect cure I have obtained from the use of your valuable medicine, the PAIN KILLER. I was urged by a friend to try it, and procured a bottle of Dr. Kernot, Apothecary.

I had been afflicted three years with Neuralgia and violent spasms of the stomach, which caused a constant rejection of food. The doctors at Westminster Hospital gave up my case in despair. Then I tried your PAIN KILLER, which gave me immediate relief from pain and sickness; and I regained my strength, and am now able to follow my usual occupation of sailor. One bottle cured me.

Yours respectfully, CHARLES POWELL.

SIR:—I desire to bear willing testimony to the wonderful efficacy of that American remedy called Pain Killer, which I believe has no equal in this country. I have been afflicted with the heart disease, and could find no relief till I got the PAIN KILLER, which soon made a cure. I am quite willing to answer any inquiries about my case.

Yours, etc., FANNY SILVERS.
2w14 Dudley, (Worcestershire,) England.

**LETTERS FROM HON. AMASA WALKER.**

NORTH BROOKFIELD, MASS., Jan. 1, 1868.

ANDREW COE, ESQ., Baltimore.

*Dear Sir:*—I used your Phosphate the present year on my potatoes.

I planted three lots—one with Barn-yard manure only; one with Plaster and Barn-yard manure, and the third with Phosphate.

The result was: The first failed almost entirely; the second were small and unsatisfactory; the third, where I applied the Phosphate, were large and good, and will form my principal reliance.

The experiment has certainly been a successful one, and has sustained my previous good opinion of your fertilizer

Your obedient servant, AMASA WALKER.

NORTH BROOKFIELD, MASS., Feb. 6, 1867.

ANDREW COE, Esq., Baltimore.

*Dear Sir:*—I have used your Super-Phosphate of Lime with great satisfaction, and I can show you the evidences of its fertilizing power on grass land, even now, where it was applied eight or ten years ago. I recommend it to all my neighbors as the most effective and valuable Fertilizer that I know of.

I have always regarded it as an honest article, about which there was no mistake. I shall make use of it the coming season

Yours, truly, AMASA WALKER.

Sold at wholesale and retail by C. L. BARTLETT & CO., Boston, Mass. 14tf

**Turner's Tic Doloureux or Universal Neuralgia Pill** is a safe, certain and speedy Cure for Neuralgia and all Nervous Diseases. The severest cases are completely and permanently cured in a very short time. Neuralgia in the face or head is utterly banished in a few hours. No form of Nervous disease withstands its wonderful influence. It has the unqualified approval of many eminent physicians. It contains nothing injurious to the most delicate system. Sold everywhere. Sent on receipt of $1.00 and two postage stamps.

TURNER & CO., 1y30 120 Tremont street, Boston, Mass., Proprietors.

**ITCH! ITCH!! ITCH!!!**

Scratch! Scratch!! Scratch!!! in from 10 to 48 hours Wheaton's Ointment cures the Itch, Wheaton's Ointment cures Salt Rheum, Wheaton's Ointment cures Tetter, Wheaton's Ointment cures Barber's Itch, Wheaton's Ointment cures Old Sores, Wheaton's Ointment cures every kind of Humor like magic

Price 50 cents a box; by mail, 60 cents. Address WEEKS & POTTER, No. 170 Washington Street, Boston, Mass. For sale by all Druggists. 1y39

**BLINDNESS, DEAFNESS, AND CATARRH.**

DR. CARPENTER'S increased practice has rendered it necessary for him to prolong his stay in Bangor, and he can be consulted at the Bangor House until April 12, and positively no longer upon all Diseases of the

**EYE, EAR, THROAT, LUNGS AND CATARRH.**

See Bangor cures in Bangor papers. 2w18*

**WHEATON'S ITCH OINTMENT,**

Is for sale in Augusta by CHAS. K. PARTRIDGE, Druggist. 14

**BRADLEY'S FERTILIZER,**

A NEW MONTHLY JOURNAL, devoted to the improvement of the soil. The first number is now ready for delivery, and will be furnished to the farmers of Maine through my Agents, who are selling my Super-Phosphate of Lime, and specimen copies will be sent free of charge by addressing the publisher.

WM. L. BRADLEY, 24 Broad Street, Boston. March, 5, 1868. 4w15

**Oriental Detersive Soap.** This is decidedly the best and greatest labor-saving Soap in the world. It is made upon a new principle, and warranted to give entire satisfaction. One pound of it will go as far as three of any other family soap. Clothes need no boiling, very little hard rubbing, no washboard required. Over two hundred thousand families are now using it. For sale by dealers everywhere.

Manufactured only by

MCKEONE, VAN HAAGEN & CO., Cincop16 Philadelphia and New York.

**A VALUABLE REMEDY.**

"The Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam is one of the best medicines for Coughs, Colds, and Pulmonary Complaints ever offered to the public. Physicians of the highest respectability prescribe it, and thousands of families have it on hand as a standard family medicine." Get the genuine. REED, CUTLER & CO., Druggists, Boston, Proprietors. 4w15

**CIRCULAR TO FARMERS.**

After six year of practical experience in the manufacture of Super-phosphate of Lime, I feel warranted in saying to the farmers that I understand how to manufacture it; and to all who have used my Phosphate in past years, I have only to say, that hereafter every ton of Phosphate which I send to market will be fully up to the standard of any previous year's production. No Phosphate manufactured by me is sent to market until analyzed and known to be up to the standard required.

It is often remarked,—"I would purchase Bradley's Phosphate if I knew it was as good as it was last year"?

To all such I say, you can buy it with confidence, as I know what I have stated above to be true. I do not allow myself to guess at a single day's production. Until proved by analysis, none is sent to market.

I have expended, the past year, over fifty thousand dollars in erecting Oil of Vitriol Works, powerful machinery, &c., including a one hundred horse-power engine, and I have, therefore, much better facilities for manufacturing than heretofore

WM. L. BRADLEY.

Boston, Dec. 17, 1867.

BOSTON, Dec. 17, 1867.

S. DANA HAYES, State Assayer, 20 State St., Boston.

DEAR SIR: I have written the within circular with a view of sending it to my customers and the farming community at large.

You have been familiar with my mode of manufacturing Super-Phosphate of Lime for a long time, and within the past four months have made many analyses representing several thousand tons of Phosphate now ready for market,

Please let me know if you can endorse my statement in full as to the quality of the Phosphate I am now manufacturing, and oblige,

Your Ob't Servant, WM. L. BRADLEY.

STATE ASSAYER'S OFFICE, 20 State St., Boston.

MR. WM. L. BRADLEY,—

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 17th is at hand. I have no hesitation in saying that what you have stated in the circular in reference to the quality of your Super-Phosphate of Lime, is fully substantiated by the many analyses made here, within the last six months.

I made a great many analyses of your Super-Phosphate last year, and a still larger number this year, and take pleasure in saying that you have, by long experience, in a great measure overcome the many difficulties in manufacturing a fertilizer of uniform quality. I find by comparing the analyses of this year, with those of previous years, a great improvement in the uniformity of quality; and I consider your product of this year as fully equal, if not superior, to that of any previous year.

Your Super-Phosphate is entitled to the confidence of the agricultural community.

Respectfully, S. DANA HAYES, State Assayer of Mass.

Dec. 20th, 1867. 8w11

**TO FARMERS OF NEW ENGLAND.**

The subscriber call your attention to a new Fertilizer prepared by the Lodi Manufacturing Co., made from Night Soil, Blood, Bones & Offal of New York City, called

**DOUBLE REFINED POUDRETTE,**

which is an entirely different article from the common Poudrette made in former years. It is *double the strength* of the old kind, fine as flour, free from coarse impurities, and is as strong and effective as any super-phosphate in market, although sold for only $28 per ton or 2000 lbs in Portland.

This article has only been used one season, but its effects have astonished every one who have tried it, and the Company confidently assert that used in quantities *half as large* as was formerly used of the common Poudrette, that it will not only *double the crop*, but, ripen it from *ten days to three weeks earlier.*

This makes it by far the the cheapest and most preferable manure in market.

For pamphlet and further information apply to Kendall & Whitney, Portland, Me.; or to Lodi Manufacturing Co., 66 Cortland St., N. Y. 8w13

**THE MISERABLES**

*Of this bright and cheerful world are the Dyspeptics.*

Without a good digestion there can neither be bodily comfort nor mental enjoyment

Between the stomach and the brain there is a close and wonderful alliance. If the one is disordered the other is gloomy, dejected, incapable of effort, and indifferent to all that makes life agreeable to the healthy.

Is this a condition that any rational human being is willing to endure, when the means of certain, immediate and permanent relief can be obtained everywhere?

The Dyspeptic has his fate in his own hands. If he chooses to banish forever the disorder that racks his body and disturbs the mind with nameless horrors, he has only to step to the nearest drug store and procure a supply of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS.

No phase of Dyspepsia has ever yet resisted the alterative tonic and anti-bilious operation of this potent vegetable specific It literally regenerates the lethargic stomach; rouses into healthy action the dormant liver; puts to flight the dismal fancies that beset the mind; gently relieves and regulates the bowels; strengthens the enfeebled nerves; restores the appetite, and makes, as it were, a new creature of the despondent and debilitated invalid.

Ladies who suffer from indigestion have only to take a small dose of this pure vegetable corrective, once or twice a day, to secure entire exemption from the pains and penalties of a weak stomach and in perfect functional regularity, which but few of the sex uninterruptedly enjoy. 4w13

**$100.** One Hundred Dollars a word will be paid to any person reading this article and, on writing to the U. S. Consul at Rio Janeiro, Brazil, to ascertain the truth of the following letter, finds that it is not the truth. For twenty word here is stated not true one hundred dollars will be paid.

Radway's Ready Relief and Regulating Pills, are two of the best remedial agents in the world. The Ready Relief is instantaneous; its chief object is to relieve the sufferer from pain at once—its secondary function is to cure. If seized with nodding, hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, influenza, or suffering from rheumatism, wandering pains, lameness, lumbago, pain in kidneys, inflammation of the bowels, bilious colic, the Relief will afford ease and comfort in a few minutes, and effect a cure in a few hours See Dr. Radway's Almanac for 1868. R. R. R. sold by Druggists.

RIO DE JANEIRO, April 24, 1868.

MESSRS. RAYMUNDO C. LEITE & BRO. *Gentlemen*—In answer to your esteemed favor, let me tell you that I believe there is no one so much indebted to Radway & Co.'s preparations as the undersigned. I was totally paralytic—could hardly move my head without causing great pain—pains in the spine, my internal organs paralyzed, my bowels so confined that I only went to stool once in twelve days, and was almost deprived of sight; besides all this, I was very thin; my arm and hand inflamed, and all the time taking all the preparations which it was thought would do me good, but to no avail.

The following is the manner in which I was treated: Five Pills every night, frictions with the Relief on the spine, gargle with the Relief and water, and doses of the Resolvent as per instructions in the pamphlet.

This treatment lasted five months, but at the end of forty days I could walk without crutches, and to-day, although not very strong in my legs, I walk perfectly, have good sight, find myself much stronger, and can attend to my business as when I was young.

I thank God for this great discovery, made by Dr. Radway & Co., and also thank Mr V. L. for his kindness

Believe me, gentleman, your very obedient,
2w15 JOSÉ FRANCIS O PEREIRA SERPA.

**TO HOLDERS OF GOVERNMENT BONDS**

And other SECURITIES and VALUABLES.

*UNION SAFE DEPOSIT VAULTS,*

**40 State Street, Boston.**

LEE, HIGGINSON & CO offer for rent, Safes inside their Vaults, at rates from $20 to $100 per annum. They also offer to receive, on Special Deposit, as Bailees, securities of persons living in the country or traveling abroad, Officers of the Army and Navy, Masters of Vessels, and others. Circulars, containing full particulars, forwarded on application to

Boston, March 1, 1868. 1y13 HENRY LEE, MANAGER.

**DR. LANGLEY'S ROOT AND HERB BITTERS**

Are a sure remedy for Liver Complaint in all its forms, Humors of the Blood and Skin, Scrofula, Dyspepsia, Costiveness, Indigestion, Jaundice, Headache, and Bilious Diseases, General Debility &c. They cleanse the system, regulate the bowels restore the appetite, purify the blood, strengthen the body, and thoroughly prepare it to resist diseases of all kinds. GEO. C. GOODWIN & CO., Boston. Sold by all druggists. 16w15

**"FISHER'S COUGH DROPS"**

Will, if taken in season, break up any cough, and prevent *Consumption.* It has in many cases cured the patient when given up by the physician, and is especially recommended to those who are troubled with night coughs, as it insures a sweet and refreshing sleep.

NASON, SYMONDS & CO., Kennebunk, Me., Proprietors; GEO. C. GOODWIN & CO., Boston, General Agents. Sold by all druggists. 6m43

**NOW IS YOUR TIME TO BUY ORGANS AND MELODEONS**

extremely low, also valuable Patents. See my notice in this paper of March 7th, 14th and 21st. Write for particulars.

2w15* B. M. MANSUR, Augusta, Me.

**Whiskers.** DR. LAMOTTE'S CORNELIA will force Whiskers upon the smoothest face, or Hair upon Bald Heads Never known to fail. Sample sent for 10 cents. Address REEVES & CO. 48 Nassau St., New York. 1y30*

**"OUT OF SORTS."**

Take DR. S. O. RICHARDSON'S SHERRY WINE BITTERS, —the most medicinal in the market. Established in 1808. P6m15

**No Family** can afford to be without the *White Pine Compound*, for it is the best family medicine known for Lung Complaints, Throat Diseases, and Kidney Troubles. We know of no case where it has not worked well, where a fair trial has been given.


## Married.

In Chelsea, March 1st, by Rev. C Munger, Mr. Samuel Guild to Miss Roxanna E. Bliss, both of Augusta.

In Gardiner, Feb. 12th, by Rev C Munger, Mr. H. E. Merriam, of Gardiner, to Miss Octavia A. Hunt, of Chelsea.

In Readfield, March 11th, by Rev. S D. Richardson, Mr. Charles H. Collins to Miss Annie L. Brown, both of Readfield.

At Litchfield Corner, March 15th, by Rev. J. T. Hawes, Mr. Fred rick H. Bent, of Fayette, to Miss B. Augusta Smith, of Litchfield.

In Monroe, Feb. 23d, by Rev. A Kendall, Mr. Albert Smith, to Miss Mary E Grant both of Monroe.

## Died.

In Augusta, March 12th, Avis, daughter of E. B Libbey, aged 18 years.

In Vassalboro', Feb. 18th, Miss Tamer R. Lowel, aged 67 yrs

In Carmel, March 6th, Willard, son of Mark McLaughlin, Esq. aged 7 years.

In Alna, March 12th, DeWitt Clinton Parsons, aged 16 years 20 days.


**BOOK AGENTS WANTED.**

TO SOLICIT ORDERS FOR THE "ORIGIN & HISTORY OF THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE," BY PROF. O. R. STOWE, D. D. A fresh book by one of the best and most thorough authors. There is no work published that can compare with it. It is having a large sale, *out-selling any other book.* Experience'd agents and others wanted to introduce this valuable Book into every family, as a companion of the Bible. Send for circulars Address or apply to HARTFORD PUBLISHING CO., Hartford, Conn. 4w15

**DURAND'S SEEDLING,**

Golden Queen, Philadelphia Early, Ida, Agriculturist, Downer's Prolific, Albany Seedling, and other popular variety of Strawberries. Clarke's, Philadelphia, Bristol, Doolittle's, Improved Black Cap and Davison's Thornless Raspberries. Wilson's Early, Kittatinny and Lawton Blackberries. Descriptive catalogue, free on application. SAML. D. DUDOW,

Reckletown, Burlington Co., N. J. March, 21, 1868. 2w15*

**PRANG'S AMERICAN CHROMOS**

Are *fac similé* reproductions of oil and water color paintings by eminent artists. Ask for them at the Art stores. Send for list to L. PRANG & CO., Boston. 4t15

**YOU CAN BUY**

A No. 1 Saratoga Trunk or any other sort of a Trunk at the very lowest price at COLLER & HAMILTON'S 5wcop14 101 Water St.

**LEGHORN HENS.**

These fowls are superior for eggs and poultry to any other. They are tough and more healthy than any other. These eggs will be furnished at the very low rate of 50 cents per dozen by M. H. TRUE, South Lyndeboro, N.H. 5w14*

**BUY THE BEST.**

**Buy the Cheapest.**

**BUY THE MOST EFFICACIOUS.**

**BUY THE MOST PERMANENT.**

**THE CUMBERLAND BONE COMPANY**

**Portland, Maine,**

Manufactures a most Superior Fertilizer. Their

**Raw Bone Super-Phosphate**

**Having Repeatedly Proved more Efficacious than any other in the market.**

LET IT BE JUDGED BY ITS FRUITS!

A comparative trial by Mr Robert Gray, of Fredericton, N. B., a celebrated Scotch farmer and breeder of Ayrshire stock, resulted as follows:—360 pounds per acre of pure Peruvian Guano, (the dearest manure in the market) gave 400 bushels of Swedish Turnips per acre. 350 pounds of Cumberland Super-Phosphate gave 800 bushels.

In the "Country Gentleman" of Dec. 12, 1867, is the report of a trial by S. C. Pattee, of Warner, N. H., where the "Cumberland" gave larger increase than Peruvian Guano, or either of four other brands of Super-Phosphates.

In 1866, a comparative trial made by Charles M. Allen of Beverly, N. J., showed the *increase* from the Cumberland to be 50 per cent greater than from one other sort; twice as much as from a second; and eight times as much as from a third; all popular brands of Super-Phosphate, and kinds which are now persistently pushed upon the farmers of Maine as being equal to the Cumberland!

HUNDREDS OF STATEMENTS from Maine farmers have been freely offered of a tenor like the following:

SIDNEY, December, 1867.

I used the past year 300 pounds per acre of Cumberland Super-Phosphate, on three acres of land, previously yielding only half a ton of hay per acre. The crop was 162½ bushels of good sound corn, weighing 58 pounds per bushel. *No other manure used.*

LAURISTON GUILD.

BETHEL, Dec. 4, 1867.

"From two years experience I am *highly pleased* with it. Shall continue to use it and to recommend it strongly to the public.

N. T TRUE, M. D., *Sen. Ed Me. Farmer.*

AUGUSTA, Me., Dec. 5, 1867.

"The Cumberland Super-Phosphate has given excellent satisfaction. We could send many testimonials from our most prominent farmers."

B. LIBBEY & CO.

STRONG, Dec. 6, 1867.

There is but one opinion with those to whom I sold the Cumberland Super-Phosphate All agree that it is the best article in use. I predict a large sale for it another spring.

J. W. PORTER.

BRUNSWICK, Nov. 25, 1867.

"I have used your fertiliser, and sold it. All say it is useful and economical, and will double the amount next year. I have sold other sorts heretofore, but none give such satisfaction as this."

A. T. CAMPBELL.

*From Hon. Samuel Wasson, Surry.*

"Used three barrels of Cumberland Super-Phosphate this season; intend to use five times as much next year."

Nov. 29, 1867.

*From William S. Blanchard, Cumberland.*

"I do not hesitate to say there were two bushels where it was put, to one where it was not. Ripened earlier."

*From Samuel Taylor, Fairfield.*

"I purchased this year something more than six tons of the Cumberland Super-Phosphate, and without going into detailed statements, may say, that I have always been amply repaid in the increased value of my crops."

November, 1867.

[Friend Taylor has used it every year since manufactured.]

*From J. M. Carpenter, Esq, President of the Kennebec Union Agricultural Society.*

"I used the Cumberland Super-Phosphate on corn and potatoes, in the hill, and on barley, broad-cast, with very marked success. I put it on alternate rows, in addition to other manure, and my only regret is, that I left any without it, and had so little to use. The plants all appeared more vigorous throughout the season, ripened earlier, and the increase of product was perfectly satisfactory. I hope to be able to procure a larger quantity for next year."

Pittston, November, 1867.

Bulk for bulk it has far more fertilizing power, while it weighs only about two-thirds as much as the lower priced, inferior sorts in market, and is also *permanent*, as well as *immediately effective.*

**Its quality is the same from year to year.**

A reduction in the cost of some constituents permits its sale *lower by five dollars per ton*, than in any year before.

Be sure you get the Genuine

**Cumberland Raw Bone Super-Phosphate,**

other sorts having been repeatedly sold under its name.

It is made under the sole direction of Mr Goodale, generally known as an accomplished Chemist, and as Secretary of the Maine Board of Agriculture.

Mr Goodale has in connection with the belief that "the best is the cheapest," that the interests of the buyer and seller are identical; that the interests of both are most fully served by using none but the best materials and in the most skilful manner—each and every substance and proportion being employed with a view to enhance its manurial value, and nothing whatever merely to cheapen its cost

Unlike some "super-Phosphates," this is not a mere special manure, fit only for special purposes, but is a *general manure*, suited to all crops, and containing the elements of fertility in a very concentrated form.

Address orders to CUMBERLAND BONE COMPANY, Portland, Me

Sold also by KENDALL & WHITNEY, Portland; I. G. DEERING, and S. OSGOOD, Saco; THOMPSON & PUTNAM, Lewiston; B LIBBEY & CO., and JOHN McARTHUR, Augusta; D. LLIFF & BEAN, Biddeford; NEIL & WENTWORTH, Skowhegan; ALBERT NOYES, R. B. DUNNING & Co., and CHICK & PRESCOTT, Bangor; A. T. CAMPBELL, Brunswick; M. A. BRACKETT, Lemerick; BLAISDELL, HALLETT & Co., Waterville; G. & C. BLISS, Freeport; J. W. PORTER, strong; SEWARD DILL, Phillips; and by many other respectable dealers in various places in the State. 4w15

**BAUGH'S**

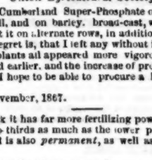
**COMMERCIAL MANURES,**

**For all Crops and Plants,**

MANUFACTURED ONLY BY

BAUGH & SONS, Philadelphia
NORTH-WESTERN FERTILIZING CO, Chicago.

**Baugh's Raw Bone Phosphate.**
**Baugh's Chicago Bone Fertilizer.**
**Baugh's Chicago Blood Manure.**




ON EVERY PACKAGE.

☞ For detailed description of these articles see the *Journal of the Farm*, a monthly Agricultural paper; to be procured by addressing the General Agents—

GEORGE W. KIRKE & CO, 49 Central Wharf, Boston.
JOHN RALSTON & CO, 181 Pearl St., New York.

☞ *Prices UNIFORM with the Manufacturers.*

For Sale by Local Dealers, who have been located in all the important cities and towns in the United States and the Dominion of Canada.

Priced Circulars, and all information, promptly furnished by addressing

**GEORGE W. KIRKE & CO.,**

49 Central Wharf, Boston.
(New England Agents.)

Sold by E H. Bargin & Co., Portland; John McArthur, Augusta; P. & T. B. Grant, Gardiner; Thompson & Putnam, Lewiston. 4weop15*

**NORCROSS & WOODBURY,**

*(Successors to E. D. Norcross,)*

DEALERS IN

**Wood and Coal Furnaces, STOVES, GAS FIXTURES,**

*Registers, Pipes and Ventilators, Iron Pumps, Sinks, Tin, Glass and Japanned Wares,*

**TABLE & POCKET CUTLERY,**

And a General Assortment of

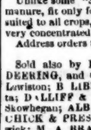
**Kitchen Furnishing Goods.**

Agents for the

**Magic Furnace & "Excellent" Cook Stove.**

☞ Steam and Gas Piping, Tin and sheet Iron Work done to order and warranted satisfactory. 16tf

**FARM FOR SALE.**



The subscriber offers for sale his farm, situated in West Gardiner, on the mail road from Hallowell to Litchfield, 6 miles from Hallowell and the same from Gardiner. This farm contains about 90 acres of land well divided into tillage, pasturing and woodland, cuts about 25 tons of hay, is well fenced with stone wall, and in the estimation of good judges there are 1000 cords of wood, there are good buildings consisting of a large and convenient house, well finished and in good repair, with L and woodshed and barn 36x50 feet, two good wells of water are convenient to house and barn; there is a large orchard in good bearing condition, mostly engrafted, also a good maple orchard. A more pleasant location cannot be found in the county. For further information call on the premises. D. A. HORN.

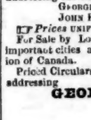
March 17, 1868. 3w15*

**FARM FOR SALE.**

Situated in Manchester on the Hallowell road, ½ mile from Manchester Corner and 3½ miles from Hallowell, containing 80 acres of good land, very conveniently divided, with orchard, tillage land, pasture and woodlot, all of which lay as handy and convenient as can be found upon any farm in the county, land is excellent for wheat, plenty of good water. Buildings are good, house 1½ stories with L, has nine finished rooms, woodshed, hoghouse and barn about 40x45 with shed For further particulars inquire on the premises of JOHN WOODS, or BENJ. D. WOODS.

Manchester, March 17, 1868. 3w15*

**FOR SALE.**

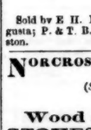


A new and commodious Dwelling House and out-buildings, with modern appliances, situated corner of Middle street and Eastern avenue, east side of the river, in Augusta. There are two large and fine building lots adjoining the premises which the subscriber will sell if the purchaser of the premises desires them; all on the most reasonable terms. Enquire at the office of the subscriber, Hunt's Block, Water St., Augusta. If not sold before March 26, the same will be sold on that day at public auction at 3 o'clock P. M. The sale to be at the premises.

J. C. TIBBETTS.

Augusta, Mar. 1868. 13tf

**FOR SALE.**



I have one full Blood Jersey Bull one year old of the Dr. Holmes stock to sale, one full Blood Jersey heifer one year old of the Dr. Holmes stock for sale, the stock is in good condition.

3w15 WM. B BONNEY.

**LADIES AND GENTS.**

Will find a larger assortment of Shopping and Travelling bags and at lower prices than elsewhere in the city at COLLER & HAMILTON'S, 101 Water St 5wcop15

**VALUATION BOOKS,**

Tax Collector's Books, and Highway Surveyors Books. For sale by E. E. PATTERSON, Augusta. 2m15

**IF YOU WANT**

A Harness of any description and warranted call at COLLER & HAMILTON'S 101 Water St., before purchasing. 5wcop14

**THEY SELL OIL CARPETINGS**

and Enameled Cloths a little less than at any other place in the city at COLLER & HAMILTON'S 101 Water St. 5wcop15

**ALL ARTICLES**

Needed in every well regulated Stable can be obtained at COLLER & HAMILTON'S 101 Water St. 5wcop15

**DOMESTIC DYES.**

A full assortment, for sale at FULLER'S Drug Store. 3tf

**MONITOR MOWER.**

The most simple, practical, lightest draft and easiest managed machine in the world. The success of the Monitor is without parallel. It embraces every point necessary to make a perfect Mower. We would call your attention to some of the principal points of the Monitor:

1st.—**Two Drive Wheels,** FREE FROM ALL GEAR, working independent of each.

2d.—**A new application of Gearing,** constructed on purely scientific principle (called Planetary Gear), whereby the intermediate shaft and journals are dispensed with, reducing a great amount of friction, and forming the most simple, powerful, and compact gear ever applied to a Mowing Machine.

3d.—**A perfect Joint,** by which the Finger Bar is attached to or taken from the Machine, without the use of pins or bolts, which cannot get loose by wear, as is the case with other joint-bar Machines. It will allow the bar to work below a level as well as above, both ends conforming to all uneven surfaces of the ground, and in having the field can be folded in a perpendicular position without leaving the seat or stopping the team.

4th—**Arranging the Pole, Driver's Seat and Frame,** in relation to each other, in such a manner as to balance the weight of the Finger Bar, and prevent any unnecessary pressure on the ground, or throw any weight on the horses' necks while working.

5th—**An improved Finger,** Laid with Steel, hardened and ground to a bevel, forming a perfect sheer edge.

6th—**Metal Shoes** or Runners at each end of the Finger Bar, adjustable to cut and required height.

7th—**A Perfect Raising Apparatus,** entirely under the control of the Driver, by which the Bar can be raised and lowered, set in any position required.

8th—**It is instantly thrown** into or out of gear by the hand or foot.

In short, the **Monitor,** embraces all the points necessary to constitute a first class Mower in every particular. The unprecedented sales it has met with, even in places where other so-called Standard Machines have been long and favorably known, clearly show not only its utility but superiority. The preference it has shown in every trial with other Machines, for being the lightest of draft, and the simplicity of its construction, its durability and easy management, as well as good work under all circumstances, comment it to the notice of every Farmer. It is fully warranted to give satisfaction in every particular by F. NISHWITZ, the Manufacturer, Williamsburg, N. Y.

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M R RICE, General Agent for the State of Maine.

Skowhegan, March 10th, 1868. 14

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Every one at times feels the necessity of something to tone up the system depressed by mental or bodily exhaustion. At such times let every one, instead of taking alcoholic or medicinal stimulants, reinvigorate his debilitated system by the natural tonic elements of the

**PERUVIAN SYRUP,**

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Being free from Alchohol in any form, *its energizing effects are not followed by corresponding reaction,* but are permanent, infusing Strength, Vigor and New Life into all parts of the system, and building up an IRON CONSTITUTION.

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**GRACE'S CELEBRATED SALVE.**

We are constantly hearing favorable reports from those who have tried this remedy. Amy Anthony, wife of Mark Anthony, of this city, and living at No. 6 Locust St., afflicted with a sore on the finger, was recently induced to make a trial of the Salve. Almost instantly she experienced relief from the pain, which had been almost unendurable. Those who have tried it once are satisfied of its merits and nothing will induce them to be without a supply.—*Fall River News.* 1m14

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IMPROVED FOR 1868.

Saves the labor of 12 to 20 men. It has received the **Grand Silver Medal** of the American Institute, and first premiums at the New York and Vermont State Fairs, the New England Fair, International Fair at Norristown, Pa., and several others. It is recommended by S. E. Todd, Agricultural Editor, *of N. Y. Times,* J. Harris, writer of "Walks and Talks" in the *American Agriculturist,* and many others in every section of the Union, who

# THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER


## Poetry.

### THE SHIPS.

The leagues of ocean glide away,
The sunlight sparkles on the bay,
The city shines 'neath moveless skies,
Far off a snowy cloudland lies,
Its silent hills and vapors curled
Betwixt the upper and under world,
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port.

From cinnamon shores of swart Ceylon,
From vales of the yellow Amazon,
The laden piers of the triple isles,
The bay where Naples sits and smiles,
The icy fields where whalers reap,
The calms where idle simoons sleep,
Within the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port.

What need have I to dare the seas?
My fancy comes and goes with these;
She drinks their wine and eats their bread—
On all the fruits of earth is fed;
So soft she rides, so still she slips,
Like breeze or tide beside the ships,
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
The gliming sails come into port.

My book lies idle on my knee,
Dulled by the romance of the sea;
I mark the fair girt-traveller stand
With ardent eyes that search the land,
The Captain musing on his wife,
The sailor-boy on his stormy life,
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port.

My thought sails on along with each
With odors from some foreign beach;
I read the log-book, where, together,
Are notes of foul and pleasant weather;
I read the manifest, enrolled
With cargoes stifling in the hold,
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port.

Though humble freight the bark may bring,
The kisses of fair waters cling;
And those dull cocoas, heaping high,
Remind of Orient palm and sky;
These cashmeres of the caravan;
These scented teas of quaint Japan;
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port.

How smoothly bright this sunny day!
The Gulf Stream cleaves its glittering way
Through watery walls from torrid seas:
To lave the ice-king's great white thrones.
What sails are those that, worn and white,
Beat slowly out of Arctic night,
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port?

Thus, wandering under every sky,
The earth, and all therein floats by;
Ne'er stirring from this elm tree's shade,
Full many a voyage have I made
To ship at last at close of day,
In safety up our purple bay,
As through the Narrows, past the fort,
I see the ships sail into port.

—*Harper's Magazine for March.*

## Our Story-Teller.

### THE WATERS OUT.

PART I.

Three days' heavy rain, and the clouds heavier and more leaden-looking than ever, as they poured down an incessant torrent of water, save when, with a fierce gust, the wind came down from the hills, driving the rain before it in a perfect cloud of spray, which dashed against the windows, and beat beneath the door, while the old house seemed to shake to the very foundations. I had just come to live at the Mill then at least so we called the house adjoining the old water-mill, built over a branch of the river.

"Plenty of water, eh!" I said laughingly to old Smith, the miller; "no standing still and stone-chipping to-day."

"Too much, sir; too much," said the old man grimly. "The waste water don't carry it off half fast enough. The low ground's all flooded now; and if this keeps on, we shall be swamped before long."

Another day, and the waters higher; the rain pouring down more fiercely than ever, pitting the surface of the yellow river, whose waters foamed and churned along, covered with twigs and grass, for every now and then, when the wind rushed through the tall elms that overlooked our house, a dead branch would be snatched off and hurled savagely into the river. Once a couple of tiles shared the same fate, having been struck by a heavy bough which caught the corner of the house. But a pail placed beneath the spot where the water dripped through into the attic met that disaster; and after saying that I would give orders to the bricklayer to come and repair damages, I passed my cup to my sister for a little more coffee.

"But you surely won't start on such a morning?" said my sister. "It rains more than ever."

"Must," I said. "I promised to meet Harris, and I won't fail."

"But is it not dangerous? Don't you think the flood may get worse?"

"No, my dear," I said. "I think the water will go down now; and as to danger—well, I may get wet."

"But must you go?" said the little, tender, pale-faced thing, that I always wondered some huge *he* had not stolen from my side years before.

"Must—must—must," I said laughing. And now don't, pray, be uneasy; for if the house is swept away before I come back, you have plenty of stores to last you on your cruise for a whole week, before starvation brings you down to cobs, oil and jam; and even then, there's the box of candles—I mean the dips; but I would not eat the wicks; and whatever you do, don't touch the composites—arsenic, you know."

"Don't be foolish, Fred," she whispered. "I can't help feeling nervous; the house seems to shake; and I lay for hours last night listening to the wind blowing, and I could not help thinking that if"——

"If the house set sail, and floated down the current, you would be wrecked upon a willow stump down in the marsh," I said. "Now don't be a little goose but occupy your mind with something till I get back to an early dinner—say four; and most likely I shall bring Harris back with me. What are you blushing for."

"Don't be so foolish, dear," said the little thing with her face aflame. So I ordered the cab I rode to be brought round; and after setting rain well at defiance with india-rubber leggings and mackintosh, I went out to see how the water stood.

It certainly was coming down furiously, and tore along by the sides of the island upon which our house stood at a fearful rate, making the old wooden bridge quiver, while I saw that I must have a small bank of earth thrown up in front of the door, or the water would soon be in the passage, frightening sister Helen into fits.

"Oh, the fishing!" I thought to myself; for I had taken up my residence at Pikehurst Mill on account of the goodly stores of finny prey in dam and pool, as well as in the swift river on the other side of the house; and now this flood seemed furious enough to sweep every fish out of the stream.

As to danger, such an idea never once entered my head, as soon after mounting my cob, I trotted over the echoing wooden bridge, and then went splashing along the swimming road till it turned up the hill; and then, as I rode along the crest towards the town—the pleasant ride where I had so often watched the meanderings of the silver river—I was almost startled at seeing the extent to which the flood had extended—meadows and fields, far and wide, were under water, with farms here and there, like islands in a willow-pollard-dotted lake; while the river itself could be traced more by the rushing water than by the trees which grew upon its sides.

The man at the turnpike was full of news the mischief done—sheep drowned, pigs swept away, and how that a farmer, trying to cross the ford in his gig, had lost his life; but he was not quite sure whether it was the farmer or the horse.

I had a six miles' ride to the town, where I executed various little commissions, paid a visit or two, lunched with my friend Harris, and then, after finishing our business consultation, he walked with me down to the hotel where I had left my horse.

"By Jove! how the water's up," said Harris, as we neared the bridge which crosses the navigable part of the river; and well he might exclaim, for, as we neared a crowd, we saw a couple of heavily laden barges float swiftly along, with bows apparently on a level with the crown of the one-arched iron bridge; then there was a shriek and a rush, as those who were upon the bridge fled, while, with a crash, the barges, one after the other, came in contact with the railings swept the bridge away, and then slowly forging round were wrecked, as it were, amongst the ruins, forming a dam right across the narrow river—a barrier which grew stronger every moment, with the boats, timber and fragments brought down by the fierce stream, till leaping and breasting in vain at this obstacle in its career, the swolen river dashed right and left along the river-street, flooding houses, running into cellars, and doing incalculable mischief in a few minutes.

"She's risen a foot an hour ever since ten o'clock," a man said close by my elbow; and as I started and changed color, Harris caught my arm, and whispered eagerly: "Will all be safe at home?"

"Come on," I said huskily; for it now struck me that I had treated the flood in too cavalier a manner, and that, after all, the Mill, if not in danger, would be so far flooded as to drive its inmates up-stairs, and frighten them almost to death. But I had no occasion to hurry my friend, for he was in the hotel-yard before I was, and I heard him order a horse to be saddled as well as mine.

"Where to, sir!" said the head hostler.

"Pikehurst Mill," arid my friend hurriedly.

I did not speak, but I was so glad of the friendly act that I gave Harris's hand a warm squeeze, one which he returned in a way that showed how thoroughly we understood one another.

"For Heaven's sake be smart, men!" I said, as the second hostler brought out one horse saddled, the other man having disappeared into the house; but he now returned with the landlord, who said to Harris in a quite, respectful way: "Impossible to get to the Mill this afternoon, sir. Can't with justice to myself, let a horse of mine go, sir."

"What!" shouted Harris fiercely.

"Why, sir, the beast would be drowned, certain sure, if you attempted it. But you don't mean the Mill itself, do you sir?"

"Never mind, Harris," I said, for I was mounted "I'll go on."

"Stop! for God's sake stop!" he shouted. "Here Mr. Ellis, what's your horse worth?"

"Thirty pounds to me, sir," said the man.

"I'll pay you that if I injure the beast," said Harris eagerly. "Now saddle it quickly."

And suppose you don't—don't come back, sir?" said the man ominously. *If* you'll take my advice, you'll both of you stop here, or else go in a boat."

Harris's reply was to run into the bar, sieze pen, ink and paper, and write a promissory note for the amount named, which he thrust into the landlord's hands; and the next minute were clattering down the street towards the old stone bridge, which we crossed just in time, for half an hour after, a pier gave way from the fearful pressure, and a side arch crumbled into the running flood.

All the lower parts of the town were under water; and the cold sweat rose upon my forehead as I saw that two or three houses had regularly sunk down into the current; while in dozens of places, people were being taken out of the upper windows into carts and boats; for I thought of the Mill, and the mighty stream beating upon the great pile at the island-head; while remembering the fate of the iron bridge in the town street, I trembled for the old, frail wooden bridge and wondered whether, if it were swept away, the horses would swim the current, for now, in our slow progress, with the water, in some places, above their girths, they snorted and shivered, and more than once stood trembling and afraid to proceed. But there was no mercy for them. Whip and spur forced them on till they were upon *terra firma* once more, and, side by side, going up hill at a brisk gallop, Harris pale, with his teeth set, answering my every remark with a monosylable, as he pressed on till we were high above the watery waste, and could now see the ruin and devastation around.

PART II.

Everywhere water—rushing water—eddying water—water covered with ruins; portions of hay stacks, heaps of straw, here floating slowly down the mighty stream, there grounding, and then turning as if upon an axis, still it floated off once more, and continuing their course. Now and then, we could make out swimming animals, and more than once carcasses; whilst in several places, cattle stood upon ever lessening islands, lowing dismally. Carts, fagots, planks, thatch from cottages, fences, and now and again huge trees, torn out of the banks, floated down the stream; while the height to which the water had risen since I left home, made my heart sink as we pressed on.

"Don't spare him," I shouted to Harris as his horse refused to cross a lane along which the water rushed fiercely and deeply enough to take my cob right off his legs for a minute; but he swam boldly till he touched bottom again. But my words were unnecessary, for at the same moment the frightened beast leaped into the yellow stream, and dashed across.

We were now in the lower ground again; but the road once more ascended until we reached the toll-gate, where the man shook his head ominously as he saw me, and said something; but without studying the payment of toll, we had galloped through.

Another mile brought us in sight of the Mill, round which the waters were rushing, and even at that distance, to my horror, I could see that the sitting-room windows were nearly covered. Harris must have seen it at the same moment, for he whipped his horse smartly, and we galloped hard down the long hill, till reaching the valley through which the river ran, we were stopped by the water, and stood looking for a favorable place to try and reach the bridge.

"Better come a little lower down here," I said.

"What for?" said Harris huskily.

"To reach the bridge."

"Where is it?" he said despairingly.

I started, for as I looked along the track of the rushing water, there was no bridge visible, and my worst fears were realized.

"Come here," said Harris, dashing through the water to a turn in the road where the Mill could easily be seen; and on reaching this spot, we could see, about five hundred yards lower down, the place we sought to reach, with the waters just covering the sitting-room windows, and figures in the bedroom making signs for help. I suppose they saw us then; but all seems so mixed up in one strange whirl, that I hardly know how the occurrences of the next few hours took place.

Moved as it were by one impulse, Harris and I forced our horses into the water with the full intention of trying to swim them till we could float down to the windows and then try and bring off two of the endangered lives; but the snorting, terrified beasts dashed back in spite of all our efforts, Harris' horse plunging so furiously that he was thrown, and the animal galloped splashing by me, while for a few seconds my companion vanished beneath the water.

I spurred the cob to where he had disappeared, and the next minute he stood holding by its mane, panting and wringing the bitterly cold water from his clothes.

"What are you going to do?" I said hastily; for he had stripped off his over and under coat, and I could see that he was pushing off his boots as he stood there up to his middle in water.

"Swim for it," he said coolly.

"But it is impossible," I said huskily.

"Do you think I can stand here till she is swept away?" he said sternly.

I could give no answer, but slipping off the cob, I followed his example, and then, after clasping hands for an instant, we waded to a suitable place for a starting-point and then continued wading till the water was up to our breasts, when we pushed off, and half-facing up the stream, swam quietly on, and without much difficulty, for we were now in an eddy which aided us a little.

The valley was about half a mile wide here, and quite one-half of that disance was now converted into a rushing, turbulent stream; but we swam boldly on, husbanding our strength for the rough water through which we should have to fight our way; for though we had started some four hundred yards above the Mill, our dread was lest we should be swept past without reaching so far across.

It was fierce work. Every now and then we had to avoid some obstacle—woodwork, tree, or the carcase of some drowned beast; while once I shuddered as my hand struck upon a human form. Our clothes seemed to grow heavier and drag us down, while when at last we were swimming in the full current of the stream, my heart sank, for I felt that we should never be able to cope with it for long enough to achieve our object. Not two yards below me swam Harris, keeping level with me stroke for stroke; but in the glance I caught I could read the same thought in his eye, though we tried to cheer one another on as well as we could with that cold rushing water at our lips trying hard to drag us down.

Once I thought it was all over, and I threw up my arms with a wild cry; for, in trying to avoid a tree-trunk that came surging down upon us, I did not make any allowance for the long snake-like roots, one of which seemed to curl round my legs and drag me down. I went under once, twice, and even now I can recall the horrible thundering of the water in my ears; but the next moment I was clear, when, if it had not been for Harris's sustaining arm, I must have gone down in that and excitement, for breathless and half-strangled, my nerve was completely gone. But on again, cleaving the water with firm strokes, feeling that the lives of all in the Mill perhaps depended upon our exertions, though the stream had swept us far down, and I could see how much way we had lost as we came nearer and nearer to the cottage.

"Turn more up stream," I panted Harris; and we battled on, lower and lower in the water while, though fighting with the energy of despair, I could feel that we should never reach the Mill, for the stream seemed swifter and swifter as we reached the true bed of the river.

"Fred!" hissed a voice at my elbow all at once, and I turned my head to see the most pale and ghastly face I ever beheld—"Fred if you ever get to them, tell her that I was true to the last, and did all I could. But I can't reach her; I'm about done."

As he spoke, my hand struck upon the thin branches of a willow-pollard, whose head was above water; and then reaching out my other hand, I caught Harris's just in time; for the stream was sweeping him away; but the next instant we were both among the branches of the pollard, retiring with the water above our breasts. Upon looking round, I tried to make out whether there was no eddy at hand of which we could take advantage, and then swim down upon the island; but no—the water seemed to bear down upon the house with one tremendous rush till it struck the walls, and then divided, right and left, as though embracing the place, and trying to lift it bodily in its watery arms. I could see that the watchers at the window saw our peril; and holding on with one hand, I waved the other in a way meant for encouragement. But I saw a figure clasp her hands to her eyes and shrink back, as though in dispair at our position, when, turning round to Harris, I asked him if he could manage the other fifty yards that lay between us and the position that should sweep us down upon the Mill.

He set his teeth and nodded; and then without a word darted off with a bold rush that astonished me after the tokens of weakness he had shown ten minutes before. However, I tried hard to imitate him, and followed some two or three yards behind, always half-swimming against the stream, as it swept us nearer and nearer to the house.

All seems now to have been one wild dream of rushing water and howling wind, mingled with the screams of women, as once more beaten in strength, we were driven down almost with the swiftness of arrows right upon the Mill, whose trellis wood-work afforded a secure hold, though the stream beat furiously against us in its efforts to tear us away. The next recollection I have is, of being half-helped, half-dragged in at an open window by Harris, and then feeling Helen's warm tears upon my face as I lay completely exhausted upon a bed-room floor.

But it was a time of peril—a time to be up and doing, for the water was still rising fast, and now, as it rushed past the house, seemed to grow more furious at the obstacle in its way. Had we felt assured of safety, it would have been an interesting though sad sight to watch the waifs borne upon the breast of the flood; but we were in danger, for I could not feel assured that the place would stand the pressure now brought to bear upon it. The lower windows had been early broken in by the woodwork swept against them, so that the water had a clear course through the lower part of the house; sheds had been swept away; furniture floated out; while the greater part of the old wooden mill by the side had early in the fight succumbed, though the top of the large undershot wheel yet showed above the flood.

Shivering as I was with cold and excitement, I can remember a grim smile coming upon my face at seeing how thoroughly my timid little sister, who afore time would hardly have stolen a look, now clung helplessly to friend Harris as if protection was in his arm; but I told myself it was human nature, and began to look out for help. Water all round—savage, living, rushing water, leaping up at us, and even splashing in at the open window sometimes, while step by step it was slowly creeping up the stairs with a strange lapping sound, as it came nearer and nearer to the bedroom door.

There were still the attics to flee to, even if we were driven from the bedroom; but that was not the dread; there was not much prospect of so high a rise; the question was, whether the building would stand. At another time, I should have pooh-poohed a doubt, and talked of the strength of the old place, and pointed to the stout walls; but now, with a torrent rushing through, and every window up stairs rattling with the vibration, the only question seemed to be time—how long it would be before the place was undermined and crumbled bodily into the water. It was a horrible dread; and even with the strong love of life upon me I could not help looking with sorrow on my gentle sister's pale face, as she clung helplessly to Harris, with her eyes asking that same question again and again: "Shall we be saved?"

"Come, Harris," I said gruffly; "up and doing; this is no time for fooleries."

I did not mean it unkindly; but however it was taken it had the effect of bringing my friend to my side in an instant, when we began to look out for a means of escape.

"I dare not trust the place," I said, "or I would stay. Can't we contrive a raft somehow?"

Harris shook his head doubtingly as, following my example, he ascended to one of the attics, and looked out upon the dreary waste. In a straight line, the nearest high ground was about two hundred yards distant; but the stream would sweep boat or raft far down towards the flooded meadows, where the watery waste spread out apparently a mile wide. No help of any kind in sight, neither boat nor barge, though a couple had rushed by earlier in the day, my sister had told me, one of which dashed down the old wooden bridge, while afterwards they were in dread lest it should come in contact with the house. But we soon finished our survey; finding that, unless we could make a raft of furniture and the woodwork of the house, we must keep to our perilous position.

Our blank looks told our disappointment to those below when we again descended; and now our only hope seemed to be the chance of making signals to some one in the distant road, though we still thought it possible that a boat might come within hail.

Night fell at last, dark and hideous, the wind howling through the elms at the back, and the water running by ever with its wild, ravening, hissing cry; the house trembled; the woodwork in the old Mill again and again, during the long watches of that awful night, cracked and gave way, portions falling heavily into the furious river, which seemed to leap and bound as if rejoicing, sending up a faintly seen spray, and then hurrying on fierce and black as ever. Step by step, the water had risen till we were driven from the bedroom, and took refuge in one of the attics; while the two women-servants wailed loudly, to add to the misery of the night. Light we had none; food we had none; but the old miller, who had hardly spoken since he helped to drag us both in at the window, calmly lit his pipe and sat smoking, with the light glowing in the bowl, to tell us of his presence.

"Tell you what," he said at last, slowly tapping the ashes from his pipe, and we all started, for so quiet had the old man been, that we had almost ignored his existence—"tell you what we shall have to dive after the old punt as soon as it's light;" when he went on to explain what seemed to me a most hopeless project—namely, that one of us should be secured by a rope round the body, and then dive, and try unchain the old flat boat, moored head and stern by chains to the posts beside the mill-post.

Morning came at last, though it showed how impractible was the scheme, even if the boat had not been torn away from its fastenings long before; and faint and despairing, we watched the light grow brighter as the sun rose upon the desolate scene, for it was a bright clear morning.

"Hooroar!" cried the old miller; "here's a boat sir;" and on looking in the direction in which he pointed, there, sure enough, was a small boat floating slowly down towards us, but evidently held by something beneath the water.

"Dragging her anchor," said Harris, as he climbed out on to the roof, but immediately returned to descend with me into the bedroom, where we stood with the water above our knees, eagerly watching the boat, as it came slowly nearer and nearer. Now the stream bore her off, as though to sweep her right away; then she swerved back again, always checked by the chain which hung from the bows. But at length she became stationary some thirty yards off; for it was evident that the little anchor had caught in one of the willow-pollards; while the boat swung about tantalizing out of our reach.

Safe or unsafe, our nerves were so unstrung that we should have tried to escape even on a frail raft; for it never once occurred to either of us that the large elm trees behind the house presented havens of safety, if we could have reached them, and climbed amidst their branches. No easy task, though for the women with us. So, with eyes eagerly fixed upon the boat, it now became the question as to which of us should try and reach it by swimming. Harris was already for starting, when my sister's arms were thrown around him, begging him not to venture; so, almost numbed though I was with cold, I sought for the most favorable window for my exit; and then, after seeing Harris and the miller standing ready at the spot, each with a sheet-rope in his hand ready to throw at me as I was swept back, I left them all in the bedroom, and with a fierce dash pushed off.

That first stroke took me a good three out of the twenty yards or so I had to swim, and then the battle began. So short a distance, but in the fierce stream, I seemed hardly to make the slightest way; while it was all dead against the torrent. Now I gained a yard, then I lost it; then, setting my teeth firmly, I pushed on again, using every effort to keep from being dashed back. Once I was on the point of giving up, when with energy of dispair, I turned first on one side, then on the other, tearing the water back in my frantic efforts to dash through it. Two yards off—a yard off—almost within reach—but the boat swerved on one side. Another frantic effort for the last; and then, as the breath came from my breast in panting sobs, I hung with one arm over the boat's side, too helpless to move for a few minutes.

A loud cheer from the miller roused me again, and after several sharp struggles I succeeded in performing that rather difficult feat—namely, climbing into a boat from the water; and then seizing the chain, I began to haul, so as to set the ark of safety free.

To my great joy I found that sculls and hook lay ready for use; and, armed with the latter, I felt no fear of hitching on to the house, when I had set the boat free, and it was drifting down with the stream.

Just as I had expected, the chain had secured fast in one of the willows, and as I hauled, the boat's head came right over the spot. Slowly, though, I found that I was overcoming the obstacle, and foot after foot of chain lay in the boat, till I threw a dark object to the surface, and then, as it turned over, the small iron grapple broke away, and horror-stricken, I gazed for an instant upon the face of a corpse before it slowly sank again beneath the muddy current.

Almost before I had recovered myself, the boat was swept down upon the house, and the chain grasped by Harris and the miller, when, with a heavy freight, we went whirling down the stream some hundreds of yards, in momentary fear of upsetting, so low were we in the water. But we made land in safety; and a fortnight after, were sitting in the old house once more, trying to keep off the effects of the damp by huge fires.

My sister could not reconcile herself, to the place again, but, under the name of Mrs. Harris, resides in the town. Yet I have only been drowned out once since; while I can't find it in my heart to leave the spot; for, as the old miller agrees with me, there are not finer chub to be found anywhere in the river; while it is not often that the waters are out.

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BEGINNING OF LIFE. What we call life is the introduction to life, rather than life itself; it is the vestibule of the temple, and not the temple. Afflictions are but for a moment, and they are to be followed by an eternal weight of glory. Though they may appear long now, they will seem very short then. It will seem a very short journey to have reached such a home, and a very brief battle to have won such a prize. Life itself is short, and, therefore, our troubles cannot be long; but eternity is long, and there will be no troubles there. That is always a reflection which may, in some degree, modify our grief.

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☞"Adulterated tea," said Mrs. Partington, as she read an account of the adulteration of teas in England, at which she was much shocked. "I know that my tea is not adulterated, for it smells virtuous," continued she, smiling with satisfaction, "and I know this Shoo-shon tea must be good, because I bought it of Mr. Shoo-shon himself. I saw him weigh it out and saw him tie it up with his own hands, and I noticed his name over the door; I tell you there is no mistake about my tea, for Mr. Shoo-shon told me he raised it in his own garden, and kept his eye upon it the whole time, so that there was no possible chance of its having been adulterated."

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☞Dr. Samuel Johnson was much attached to a young man—an intelligent Italian. As the doctor lay upon his couch from which he never rose up, he called his young friend to him and tenderly and solemnly said: "There is no one who has shown me more attention than you have done; and it is now right you should claim some attention from me. You are a young man, and are to struggle through life; you are in a profession that I dare say you will exercise with great fidelity and innocence; but let me exhort you always to think of my situation which must one day be yours—always remember that life is short, and that eternity never ends."

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☞A popular speaker on a clerical occasion was particularly eloquent. At length he came to speak of the burning of Servetus at Geneva. After depicting the horrible details in a manner terribly graphic, and laying the whole blame on John Calvin, whom he declared to be the chief instigator of the atrocity, he turned to the clerical *posse* behind him, exclaiming in the most deprecatory and confidential tone: "Gentlemen, I wish to God some Pope had done that, and not the head of our Church!"

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☞A sharp old gentleman travelling out West got a seat beside his wife in a crowded car, by requesting the young man who sat by her, to "please watch that woman while he went into another car, as she had fits."

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☞A wag remarks that he has seen a couple of sisters who had to be told everything together, for they were so much alike that they could not be told apart.


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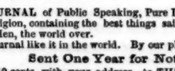
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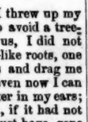
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